

Gay Community News

THE NATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY WEEKLY SINCE 1973

JUNE 6-19, 1992

VOLUME 19 NO. 43-44

NON-PROFIT BIPAD: 65498

\$1.25



Pride '92

INSIDE: SABRINA SOJOURNER • URVASHI VAID • JOHN PRESTON • SUSIE BRIGHT • DISPOSABLE HEROES OF HIPHOPRISY • AND MUCH MORE!!!

Castro queers question Hollywood's Harvey Milk

By Rachel Timoner

SAN FRANCISCO—Many of the fears that had been brewing among San Francisco queers about *The Mayor of Castro Street*, the film in development by Warner Brothers about the life of Harvey Milk, were put to rest May 29 when the film's three co-producers, two of whom are openly gay, met with more than 200 lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender activists in an open community forum.

Though it appears that this film may actually be a sympathetic and accurate account of Milk's life and legacy, the consistent history of Hollywood's bigoted portrayals and erasures of queer existence led many San Francisco activists to initially distrust the efforts to put Randy Shilts' biography of Milk on film.

The film's three co-producers, Craig Zadan, Neil Meron and Janet Yang announced at the forum that Gus Van Sant, the gay man who directed *My Own Private Idaho*, has agreed to direct the film and is in the process of negotiating his contract, and that Robin Williams has expressed interest in playing Harvey Milk, although no final decision has been made about who will be the lead actor.

Though the gathering unanimously cheered the fact that Oliver Stone is no longer directing the picture, some worried that Van Sant does not create "broad-based" films that are widely distributed in middle America, a stated goal of the producers.

Others expressed worries about Williams, who once ridiculed gay men on the *Tonight Show*. The producers responded that they are convinced that Williams has changed over time, and is now sensitive to the experience of gay men and the story of Harvey Milk.

Marge Plum, the moderator of the discussion, dispelled some of the distrust in the room by acknowledging the producers' "openness to suggestions and commitment to the lesbian and gay community."

"We didn't have to beat down any doors to meet with them tonight. It was their idea," she said.

"This could be a watershed film. If we do it right, this could open the floodgates in Hollywood to gay-themed films," Zadan said. "This is something we are passionate about, care about deeply, and want to do correctly," she added.

Despite speculation among some members of the audience that the producers were willing to meet only in order to avoid activists disrupting the filming, as occurred with *Basic Instinct*, the producers said they were interested in opening communication.

When pressed by the gathering to say how they would keep dialogue open, whether in the form of an advisory committee that would read scripts, or in ongoing forums, the producers were not willing to specify.

The primary concerns of forum participants were that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and HIV-positive people be hired for the cast and crew, that the film be accurate in its representations both of Milk and the diverse gay community, that there be some representation of sex and that lesbians be portrayed positively in the film.

Several members of Catherine Did It!, the group behind the protests against *Basic Instinct*, obtained copies of the script. They said they were impressed with it, but were not convinced that what they read will end up on screen.

Jim Rivaldo, who was a close associate of Harvey Milk, expressed a great deal of optimism about the film. "I've been impressed with their commitment to... the lesbian and gay community," he said. "I get a sense that they appreciate the historical significance of what they're doing."

Filming is scheduled to begin as early as next March.

Ross Perot angers gay activists

By John Zeh

WASHINGTON—When Independent Presidential hopeful H. Ross Perot announced on ABC's 20/20 May 29 that he would not hire adulterers or gay men and lesbians for Cabinet-level jobs, including Secretary of Defense, he triggered the ire of lesbian and gay activists. Some members of lesbian and gay political groups had supported Perot, including some in the Boston area.

Staff who opened campaign offices for Perot June 1 encountered pairs of gay men and lesbians in a doorstep kiss-in after meeting the press. Perot's new campaign office building, ironically, housed the headquarters of the 1987 March on Washington for the Lesbian and Gay Rights.

At the sidewalk action's conclusion, Perot staffers tore up signs saying "Homos Say No to Perot" that protestors had placed on a window with red, white, and blue Perot posters and t-shirts. They declined to comment.

"It's like [former Alabama Governor and reputed racist] George Wallace at his 60's Presidential campaign headquarters door not allowing African-Americans in," said Robert Bray, media director for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

"His statements are alarmingly similar to those in the far right such as Pat Buchanan and David Duke," Bray said. He pledged that NGLTF and allies will hound Perot "at every campaign stop in this country."

Perot said on 20/20 that he does not want anybody in the Cabinet who "will be a point of controversy with the American people" because it "will distract from the work to be done."

"It's completely unacceptable that he would refuse to hire openly gay Cabinet members," said Queer Nation member Margaret Cantrell, who called the zap.

Arline Isaacson, co-chair of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, added that 20/20's Barbara Walters should also be held accountable for saying on the program that she was surprised at the focus on Perot's anti-gay comments. "If he had said those things about women or Jews or Black [people], Barbara Walters would have realized how outrageous it was," Isaacson said.

Perot's reps who refused to admit the D.C. protesters to the 15th Street storefront later agreed to open up to talks. "We're working to schedule a meeting," Gregory King of the Human Rights Campaign Fund said.

Activists want more than apologies. It's not enough that he retract his statements," said Cantrell "We want some very specific campaign promises from him."

Incumbent George Bush and Democratic hopeful Bill Clinton remain front-runners, but surveys of voter sentiment place Perot in good standing.

Perot's homophobic statements, said King, have disqualified him from serious consideration as a Presidential candidate. On June 1, HRCF endorsed Clinton's bid for President.

"Too many people will die if we don't elect a President who will focus on AIDS and gay and lesbian civil rights," King said.

Bray charged that despite the press conference's peaceful nature, Perot "has made a huge mistake in insulting and defaming 24 million gay and lesbian Americans."

NGLTF announced its members would have supported Sen. Paul Tsongas for President. Tsongas won 43 percent of the votes in NGLTF's survey of its 16,000 members (six percent responded). Clinton earned 15 percent and former Calif. Gov. Jerry Brown won 10 percent, while Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin and New York Gov. Mario Cuomo each earned five percent. George Bush earned three percent of NGLTF members' support, although the gay Republicans for Individual Freedom announced over 60 percent of its members supported Bush.

—with Carrie Wofford

Quotes of the week

"What I find most disturbing is the fact that only a very few of the contributors [to the *Road Before Us: 100 Black Gay Poets*] have come forth with their own status. In order for the African-American community to face this decimation of our community... we must realize that silence does equal death."

—Assoto Saint, poet and editor of the *Road Before Us*, announcing that more than half of the contributors to his book are HIV positive and/or have AIDS.

"We were talking in the meeting about the drug rumors that were started about [Los Angeles Raider] quarterback Todd Marinovich. Can you imagine what it would be like to pick up the paper one morning and see that some unidentified team source had said you were HIV positive?"

—Washington Redskins player Mark Mayhew discussing the National Football League's (NFL) May 27 and 28 meetings to review its HIV policy, which currently calls for voluntary testing of players. The NFL is considering mandatory, confidential testing, according to the New York Times.

City Hall cleans up gay magazine

BOSTON—City Hall attempted to clean up the image of its magazine racks by throwing away all copies of *In*, a gay bar rag on May 26. *In*, which had been delivered to magazine racks near the front desk and reentry of City Hall as it has been since the magazine's inception eight months ago, was removed by the City Hall Real Property Department. At first, City Hall claimed they removed the magazines due to a space consideration, a claim French Wall, an anti-censorship activist and writer and editor of the *Gay Guide* travel magazine, called "a complete lie."

City Hall officials later negotiated with *In* editor Ken Griffin to remove the phone sex/personals section of the paper. "I guess they were worried about [kids] and... people [who] might have some puritanical ideas," Griffin told *GCN*. French Wall noted that a heterosexual "singles pick-up magazine" remains on the City Hall racks.

—Carrie Wofford

St. Pat's marcher loses job

BOSTON—Cliff Arneson, who marched with the gay and lesbian group in Boston's St. Patrick's day parade said he was forced out of his job after the manager at the condominium complex where he worked recognized him in a news photo of the parade and harassed him for participating in the parade. Arenson was one of 25 members of the Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Pride Committee, which marched in the parade under court and police protection (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 33-34).

Arneson filed a complaint with the Boston Human Rights Commission. Arneson is also co-president of the New England Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans.

—Carrie Wofford

Burma's execution of HIV positive women protested

WASHINGTON—Protesting Burma's reported "genocidal murder" of 25 or more HIV positive women prostitutes injected with poisonous Cyanide to stop the spread of AIDS, an estimated 22 activists picketed the Myanmar Embassy May 29. The event was organized by Queer&Asian, a group of Asian American gay and lesbian activists, and ACT UP.

The Myanmar (formerly Burma) government's action constitutes one of the most extreme examples of how HIV positive people are persecuted, ACT UP member Margaret Cantrell said at the lunch-hour demonstration. "This kind of thing goes on all over the world against HIV-positive people," she told *GCN*. "This is just the worst of it."

Planning for the direct action helped Queer&Asian members expand their outreach to fight apathy among peers, said John Laspinas, a San Francisco activist who now lives in Washington. Gay men and lesbians from 25 Asian countries must hold their governments accountable by taking action to say, "We're watching you, and we're going to respond," he said.

The demonstration was sparked by San

Francisco's International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Coalition, which asked for emergency action after reports of the poisoning appeared in *The Nation* magazine and on United Press International news wire service. Burmese officials at the chancery refused to discuss the protesters' request for a meeting to discuss the issue. Other Burmese leaders denied the murders.

A director of a shelter for battered women in Bangkok said Thai police disclosed Burma's chemical execution. "The police told us the girls were injected and buried, all killed," Nitiya Thippayanuraksakui told UPI.

U.S. Secret Service police allowed demonstrators to chalk-in symbols representing the murdered women directly outside the chancery. "If we mishandle a protest, another incident could be provoked in the other country," said St. D.G. McCullough, who coordinated the seven-person police presence. "Our unit is very sensitive to how we handle protests."

Activists said they will appeal to the U.S. State Department, the United Nations, Amnesty International, and U.S. businesses in Burma for intervention to prevent further killings.

—John Zeh

Anti-gay laws for Colorado, Oregon?

DENVER—A measure to make gay rights laws unconstitutional in Colorado will appear on the ballot in November due to a successful petition drive by conservative forces in the state. Late last month, an anti-gay group calling themselves Colorado for Family Values (CFV) filed 65,000 signatures supporting the measure, the *New York Times* reported.

If the measure passes in November, no law protecting individuals from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation could be enacted at the state or local level. In addition, existing gay rights laws in Aspen, Boulder and Denver would be repealed, as would a year-old executive order banning discrimination against gay men and lesbians in state employment (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 22).

Among those supporting the initiative drive are such prominent public figures as the infamously homophobic University of Colorado football coach, Bill McCartney, and former U.S. senator Bill Armstrong. In a fundraising letter for CFV, Armstrong wrote that "to equate the self-created personal miseries of pleasure-addicted gays—who sport average incomes of nearly \$55,000 a year—with the innocent sufferings and crippling poverty of legitimate minority groups is an insult to those who've struggled to achieve true civil rights in America."

Similar attempts to make gay/lesbian rights laws unconstitutional through ballot initiatives are underway in Oregon. There, an initiative to outlaw civil rights for lesbians and gay men and ban gay pride events on public property in the city of Springfield, Ore. gained a narrow majority of citizens' votes May 19 and will appear on the November ballot. A similar initiative failed in Corvallis, Ore. by a ratio of nearly 2-to-1. Attempts are also underway to overturn the state's only gay rights ordinance, signed into law last October in Portland.

In addition, the Oregon Citizens Alliance has until July 3 to gather 89,000 signatures to put a statewide measure on the November ballot that would not only prevent gay/lesbian rights laws from being enacted in the state, but would also encode anti-gay bias. If it passes, the measure would bar any agency that provides services to gay men or lesbians from receiving public funding or resources and would force libraries to remove materials with gay-positive content, according to Stephanie Holloway, the director of a gay and lesbian support center in Portland.

The proposed law would also require that schools and universities set a standard that "recognizes homosexuality ... as abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse and that these behaviors are to be discouraged and avoided."

In other states, anti-gay forces are on the offensive as well. If an initiative drive is successful in Maine, any gay rights legislation in the state would have to be approved by a majority of voters. In Alabama, state lawmakers are considering legislation that would forbid schools to teach any form of HIV prevention except abstinence and, like the proposed Oregon law, would require the removal of library materials containing positive portrayals of gay men and lesbians. Lawmakers in Alabama also enacted legislation barring gay and lesbian student groups from receiving funding from state universities.

—Dawn Schmitz

Gay marriage not allowed

WASHINGTON—For the second time, a D.C. Superior Court Judge has ruled that two gay men do not deserve a marriage license in spite of the couple's objection to biblical references in city law.

Craig Robert Dean and Patrick Gerald Gill contended in their suit for reconsideration that D.C.'s marriage law violates the Constitution's guarantee against establishment of a state religion.

Judge Shellie F. Bowers called their claim "totally frivolous" in her June 3 decision, ruling that the law does not advance or endorse religion, but is properly "motivated by religious convictions."

The couple will appeal to the D.C. Court of Appeals, where a three-judge panel will rule after Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union file friends-of-the-court briefs.

—John Zeh

Activists protest racist gay bar

ITHACA, N.Y.—Seventy-two gay men and lesbians demonstrated May 9 against a local gay bar to protest its racist carding practices. Activists distributing literature and wearing signs were confronted several times by the bar's staff and owner, and many gained entry to the bar before the owner, Doug Miller, closed the bar to additional customers at 11:30 pm.

Activists charge that Miller requires more pieces of identification from people of color than from white patrons. One protester, an African American man, told Miller he had filed a discrimination suit earlier that week with the Tompkins County Human Rights Commission.

Among the demands the activists made were the following: the implementation of uniform carding procedures, a commitment to hiring people of color and an agreement to "diversify the music played to reflect the tastes of a broader spectrum of the local gay, lesbian and bisexual community. Activists inside the bar formed a barricade of the drink-serving area at last call and staged a sit-in on the dance floor at closing time.

—Dawn Schmitz

DC Mayor's AIDS initiatives mixed

WASHINGTON—The mayor of the nation's capital, Sharon Pratt Kelly, announced May 12 that condoms will be made available in city high schools and prisons. She also endorsed a trial needle exchange program for intravenous drug users as a way to fight the transmission of HIV, according to the *Boston Globe*.

Activists praised Kelly's announcement, noting that they have promoted such policies for several years.

Early last month, Kelly came under fire at a meeting with Black gay activists for her endorsement of an anti-gay council member and her failure to release statistics detailing the prevalence of HIV among the city's African American population, the *Washington Blade* reported.

—Dawn Schmitz

Needle exchange funded

NEW YORK—While the Bush Administration on June 2 denounced the Mayors of New York and Washington D.C. for allowing needle exchange programs, five needle exchange programs in several U.S. cities received grants totaling almost \$300,000 from the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR). Officials of the organization announced May 13 that they were awarding the grants with the intention of proving that such programs reduce the spread of HIV among injection drug users, their sexual partners and children.

Programs receiving the grants include the Minority Task Force on AIDS, which will work with the Bronx-Harlem Needle Exchange Program; the Lower East Side Needle Exchange Program of New York; the Drug Policy Foundation in Chicago's North side; the Boulder County (Colo.) Health Department; and the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

In Trenton, New Jersey, two members of ACT UP were arrested after staging a sym-

bolic needle exchange at the State House on April 20. John Mackin and Kathryn Neal were among a dozen ACT UP members who were protesting the state government's inaction on the issue of HIV transmission.

According to ACT UP, New Jersey—where the distribution of hypodermic needles is illegal—has the nation's highest rate of HIV transmission through injection drug use. Among ACT UP's demands were decriminalization of hypodermic needle possession, the implementation of a needle exchange program and drug treatment on demand.

The arrests of the two protesters came a year and a day after four ACT UP members were arrested for exchanging needles in Jersey City. The four were later acquitted.

—Dawn Schmitz

Californians fight HIV discrimination

SACRAMENTO—More than 100 AIDS activists from up and down the state gathered at the California Department of Corrections (CDC) in Sacramento on June 1 to protest conditions for HIV positive inmates.

Every six days, according to the protest organizers, ACT UP and CHAIN (California HIV Activist and Inmate Network), one of the 6000 HIV positive people in the California prison system dies of AIDS-related complications. HIV positive inmates receive sub-standard health care while in prison and face segregation, discrimination and punishment for living with the disease. They can expect to live half as long, on average, as people with AIDS on the outside. At Vacaville State Prison, for instance, most of the medical staff at the prison left, citing the prison officials' lack of commitment to the health of HIV positive prisoners (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 37-38).

Prisoners with AIDS are also routinely denied family visits. The situation is similar in prisons throughout the country.

"AIDS is of crisis proportions in prisons, and because of lack of attention, it's getting worse," Ellen Yellowbird of ACT UP/San Francisco told the gathering. She cited the lack of preventative education and refusal of corrections departments to allow the distribution of condoms and bleach.

The protesters demanded comprehensive HIV/AIDS treatment in prisons, access to clinical trials for prisoners, equal access to visitation and all prisoner programs for HIV positive prisoners, voluntary and anonymous testing, no forced segregation of HIV positive prisoners, compassionate release and AIDS prevention and peer education.

"The sad fact is that a woman or man may enter prison on a short-term sentence of one to two years and, in reality, be handed a death sentence," a statement from the organizers said.

Activists had planned the demonstration for May 4 (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 37-38), but postponed it in order to respond to the acquittal of Los Angeles police in the Rodney King case.

—Rachel Timoner

Artists to benefit rebuilding of LA

LOS ANGELES—Lesbian and gay poets, performers, artists and writers will combine their talents for "The Fire This Time," a grassroots response of the lesbian and gay community to benefit efforts to rebuild Los Angeles in the wake of the violent response to the not guilty verdicts announced April 19 against four LAPD officers who beat Rodney King.

The beneficiaries will include the Aquarian bookstore, the nation's oldest Black bookstore, which was burnt to the ground and had no insurance, and the First A.M.E Church, the oldest African American congregation in Los Angeles.

Luis Alfaro, Ayofemi Folayan, Terry de la Pena, Eduardo Santiago and Henri Tran will be among those sharing their works June 16, at 7 p.m. at the Celebration theater. June 16 is both Soweto Day and part of the Juneteenth traditional African and African American Liberation celebrations. Call (213) 250-8472 for more information.

—Carrie Wofford

Lesbians/gay men in CA school books

SACRAMENTO—The five million students in California's public school system may be reading about queers in health class, if the state's Curriculum Commission gets its way.

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Black lesbian and gay pride

With over 2000 participants, D.C. boasts the nation's second celebration of Black lesbian and gay pride



JOY SAVAGE

A member of the performance art group ONYX at a fundraiser to benefit Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day.

By Carle Wofford

WASHINGTON—African American lesbians and gay men celebrated the nation's second Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day here May 24. To address widespread feelings of alienation from D.C.'s standard pride celebration, the events of both years were held in the Black community, at Bancker field near Howard University.

The event was initiated last year when activists "got together and just wondered why something like that hadn't happened [yet] in Washington," which is 70 percent Black, Theodore Kirkland, one of the organizers, said at the time.

The idea was sparked in part by the large turnout of support for Jim Harvey, the first

openly gay Black candidate for office in D.C. Harvey ran unsuccessfully for City Council last spring.

Many of last year's organizers also expressed frustration by the increasing commercialization and lack of cultural diversity of the larger lesbian and gay pride celebration, which occurs this year on June 21.

Despite the strong Black gay and lesbian political community in Washington, "initial criticisms surfaced [in 1991] that we were being separatists," one of the organizers said. Even the organizers of Pride of Washington wanted to know why it was planned. But Carlene Cheatam, the coordinator of the D.C. Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day for the past two years, challenged the white pride organizers, "Why not? Why is it so strange that Black people would choose to do [what everyone else does]?"

Cheatam made the connection between the resistance to the 1991 Black Pride and a more general resistance of white lesbians and gay men to support Black organizers. When Cheatam was a coordinator of the traditional Gay and Lesbian Pride of Washington in 1983, she recounted, "I personally received a lot of resistance... when [white gay] bar owners saw [that]... this Black woman was running the show."

The Gay and Lesbian Pride of Washington committee ended up offering \$200 in seed money in 1991 and offering volunteer support.

"This year, the whites were supportive," Cheatam said. "The only real problem was the fact that more people didn't do more of the work."

The 1991 event drew nearly 1000 people, while this year's brought together over 2000 people, with 90 percent of the participants African American lesbians and gay men.

[See related essay below]

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The road to pride

The coordinator of Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day tells all

[What follows are the insights and perspectives of the coordinator of Black Gay Pride. GCN hopes to spread the wealth of organizing expertise by sharing experiences such as this.]

By Carlene Cheatam

The International Pride Coordinators' Conference selected the 1992 theme of "Pride=Power," but it was "the Road to Pride" that was the force of the D.C. Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day '92.

We set out on a journey to raise \$10,000 for AIDS service organizations serving the Black community in the District of Columbia and to enhance Black Lesbian and Gay Pride. We had a successful first "Black Pride" in 1991 under our belt. The biggest success was the fact that a foundation had been set on which to build and that we had created a new funding source for AIDS service organizations.

A broad coalition

The process began with an Executive Committee of four individuals, the late Welmore Cook (a founder of Black Pride Day and the inspiration for the development of this new funding source for AIDS service organizations serving the Black community), Ernest Hopkins, Theodore Kirkland, Gina Stevens and myself in September 1991. We set out a road map: 1) We selected a coordinator; 2) We established a Steering Committee that would represent the full diversity of our community and assist with fundraising outreach. The clubs most frequented by our community were represented: Brass Rail, Bachelors Mill, Hill Haven, Nob Hill, Tracks and Encore. AIDS service organizations serving the Black community joined us: Inner City AIDS Network (ICAN) and D.C. CARE Consortium (representing over 60 local AIDS service organizations). Social, political and cultural organizations were invited to participate: D.C. Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gay Men, Inc., Black Lesbian Support Group, Best of Washington, Phatt Baby Productions, Lady B Productions, Nubian Womyn, Black Women Together, The Gents and The Associates; 3) We established and selected chairs of the operating committees (public relations, volunteers, fund-raising, entertainment and logistics); and 4) We developed a plan of action.

Our vision for Black Pride '92 was the following: 1) to ensure that everyone in our community in the Metropolitan Washington area would know that Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day festivities would be held Memorial Day weekend; 2) we would invite

to the table representatives of our diverse community to work together on a project that would benefit us all; and 3) we would raise \$10,000 for AIDS service organizations.

The body accepted a proposal to expand the festivities to a full week-end experience. Friday - Moonlight Cruise up the Potomac; Saturday - Film Festival featuring Marlon Riggs films; and Sunday - a prayer breakfast and the "Black Pride Day" festival with vendors and entertainment.

The P.R. Committee created the phrase "The Road to Pride" in January in a flyer announcing fundraisers at the bars and clubs from January through May. The kick-off fundraiser in December 1991 netted \$85. The subsequent fundraisers netted between \$140 to over \$1000. Other revenue producing components included tickets for the boat ride, souvenir program advertisements, T-shirts and buttons.

As with most organizations it was the work of a few that kept the ball rolling. A true labor of love experience. The P.R. Committee, consisting of Kevin Postell, Alex Wiley, Chauncey Lyles, Fatu Yarrow, Joy Savage and Steve Taylor sent out press releases across the country, created flyers for upcoming events locally and created a top-of-the-line 24-page souvenir program with over \$5000 worth of advertisement from a variety of organizations.

Sparked interest nationally

The P.R. committee also took out a full page ad in the "Alternative," which first came out during the Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum in Oakland in February. This enhanced our "national exposure." We believe that it was because of the work of the P.R. committee that we began to receive calls of inquiry from Atlanta, New Orleans, Oakland, Ohio, Detroit, Baltimore, Los Angeles and even Canada. The souvenir program really knocked the people off their chairs. It included pictures from last year of the current members on the organizing committee, letters of support from the U.S. House of Representatives Delegate, the Mayor and the Chairman of the District of Columbia Council, a listing of the entertainers, a map of Bancker Field and pictures from various activities on "The Road to Pride."

New spirit

The weekend finally arrived and the District of Columbia was humming with Black lesbians and gay men who came from all over the country. There was a spirit unknown until it happened. Throughout the weekend the local clubs were packed, some

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AAC

Over 35,000 pledge walkers raised \$2.5 million in AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts' seventh annual From All Walks of Life walk on May 31. \$500,000 was designated for community groups, including ACT UP, the Community Research Initiative of New England, Fenway Community Health Center and the Haitian Community AIDS Outreach Project.

The porn debates reignite

Anti-porn feminists are winning victories in courts and legislatures. But those victories are proving to be catastrophies for gay and lesbian magazines and anti-censorship activists

By Kathryn E. Diaz

The Ontario police's confiscation last month of a lesbian sex magazine, *Bad Attitude*, from a Toronto lesbian and gay bookstore and the confiscation by U.S. Customs officials in Boston of gay magazines headed to Boston's Glad Day Bookstore (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 41-42) threatens to open up old wounds in feminist circles. At the same time, anti-pornography legislation is making unheralded progress in Congress and a bill was introduced in Massachusetts this March.

Canada's high court sides with 'women'

The Ontario raid of a gay bookstore was the first obscenity charge filed in Canada since the Canadian Supreme Court's controversial decision February 27 in *Butler v. Her Majesty the Queen*. That decision was either hailed or reviled, depending on to whom you talk. The decision adopted the prosecution's argument—drafted by U.S. anti-pornography activist and legal theorist Catharine MacKinnon, together with Andrea Dworkin—to change the legal definition of obscenity to include depictions of "degrading and dehumanizing" behavior and to rule that any obscene materials will not be protected under Canada's Charter. (See *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 41-42.)

MacKinnon has spearheaded attempts in recent years to ratify similar anti-pornography rulings through legislation in the U.S. in Indianapolis and Minneapolis. The Indianapolis legislation was ruled unconstitutional and the Minneapolis legislation was vetoed by the Mayor. MacKinnon views pornography as an act, not speech, and therefore believes it should not be accorded First Amendment protection.

"The whole point is what is consensual when women as a class have been denied access to power?" asked Gail Dines, a professor at Wheelock College in Boston, and an organizer with the Women's Alliance Against Pornography (WAAP), who worked in favor of a Cambridge, Mass. anti-porn ordinance in 1985. "What is consensual about people in Mexico walking 5 miles to work 20 hours a day? If, in *Bad Attitude*, women want to have sex with each other that's fine. It's not sex we're opposed to, but, ask yourself, why are there women in *Bad Attitude* tied up?"

Gay and lesbian magazines bear brunt

Noticeably absent from both Canada's definition of obscenity and pending U.S. anti-pornography legislation is consciousness about lesbian and gay sexuality itself and how uniquely vulnerable the gay and lesbian community is to mis-application of such legislation.

For political reasons, anti-porn activists such as MacKinnon have laid off lesbian porn. But lesbians in the Feminist Anti-Censorship Task Force (FACT) and elsewhere have featured prominently in efforts to curb MacKinnon's crusade against pornography and have issued warnings about its potential effects.

It was a lesbian magazine that was confiscated in the Toronto gay bookstore raid, leading both owner John Scythes and manager Tom Ivison to be charged with violating Canada's obscenity law for selling the maga-

zine. The pre-trial hearing is scheduled for June 9 and the trial will most likely take place in the fall.

Jasmine Sterling, the publisher of the Cambridge, Mass.-based *Bad Attitude*, explained, "Some would say this is pornography... but when women engage in S/M, it's an exchange of power. The people in the photos are almost all lovers. It's done in a safe, sane and consensual... way."

"I think the Canadian law was meant to protect women, like against snuff films," Sterling added. "Anything not consensual is bad stuff. But in this situation there was gay harassment in targeting my magazine."

Nan Hunter, a member of the Feminist Anti-Censorship Task Force and former Director of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project of the ACLU, who is now an Associate Professor of Law at Brooklyn Law School, agreed. "The *Butler* decision is unbelievable.... The Canadian Court equated harm with explicitness, using the argument that explicitness is harmful to women.... To take that twisted logic and apply it to lesbian erotic materials is confusing sexuality with the assumption of harm to women. It is very protectionist, very antithetical to any kind of empowerment of women."

Canada and U.S. define 'obscenity' using community standards

By maintaining a "community standards" threshold, courts unwittingly leave gay men and lesbians subject to being harshly singled out, since the straight "community" is the majority and often views anything gay or lesbian as obscene. While the Canadian decision modified its standard of obscenity, it failed to provide a different standard for lesbian and gay porn, such as on the premise that "degradation" is more commonly perpetrated by men upon women than men upon men or women upon women.

In this sense, Canadian law is similar to the U.S. obscenity law, the standard laid down by the Supreme Court in the 1973 case, *Miller v. California*. Under the *Miller* definition of obscenity, "a publication must... appeal to prurient interest [be lewd], contain offensive depictions or descriptions of [sex] and... have no serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value." Offensiveness is assessed by "the standards of the community."

Courts forget that public opinion tests hit gay people hardest

Hester Lessard, a professor at the University of Victoria Law School in British Columbia, noted, "Gay sexuality didn't have a role at all [in either drafting the Criminal Code or the *Butler* decision]. The judges did not explore in any way how a homophobic interpretation could be damaging to gay expression."

Carl Stychin, who teaches at Columbia University School of Law in New York, and who has recently written about how MacKinnon views gay male sexuality, added, "On its face, the Canadian legislation seems pretty neutral about whether it covers gay or straight pornography, but it has tended to be enforced virulently against gay material," such as the seizing of gay guide books and gay male erotic magazines en route to Boston's Glad Day bookstore (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 41-42).

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Watts II

The third essay in a four-part series on the response in Los Angeles to the acquittal of four white policemen who beat Rodney King



Diversity 201

By Sabrina Sojourner

I start this essay by making four assumptions: 1) We collectively understand that oppression is multifaceted, pervasive and overwhelming. 2) If we are sincere in wanting to make profound social change—change which extends beyond the development of law, we must make a life-long commitment to be part of solutions, even as we may cause problems. 3) Race, like gender, does not exist as a separate identity. The more comfortable one is with one's racial, ethnic, or cultural identity, the less threatening others are, with one present-day exception: those of us of color who are comfortable with our identity are, and will be perceived as, a threat to white America. 4) As oppressor and target (it is possible to be a target even as we oppress others), each of us has a role in changing our steps in the dance which perpetuates and promotes inequities. It is the oppressor's role to eliminate the personal, social, structural and political barriers which support individual, collective and institutional oppressive behavior. It is the target's role to resist being a token, exception or victim. Our joint role is to oppose injustice wherever it appears.

From here, we take the next step: engaging in substantive dialogue about the ways in which we are different and the ways in which we are similar. There will be tension as it is an important part of the process, a signal the process is working, and a natural result of discussing the pain of oppression.

Talking about differences makes most of us downright uncomfortable for many reasons, not the least of which is that we have been taught that it's not polite. As children, we learned it was wrong to point out another's difference be it because they were in a wheelchair, using a white cane, a man whose mannerisms were effeminate, a woman who failed to dress like a lady, or a large man or woman. Speaking to our parents about these differences in a loud voice would draw a slap of our pointing hand, the dreaded "wait 'til I get you home!" look, or another response which signaled we had committed a major wrong.

We were also taught to hold the person who is different accountable for being different. Thus, we terrorized others for their skin color, the shape of their eyes, their sexual orientation, their gender, because they were mentally slow, and much, much more. As witnesses to these events, we learned to be silent, fearing we would be next. Targets learned acquiescence and martyrdom were the appropriate responses, and that to remain polite if we wanted to stay alive.

Conscious of it or not, these early experiences play a role in our tendency to avoid any discussion which might cause conflict or point up differences.

The impact of these behaviors on the workplace is: women are told we must put up with men's rude behavior as a consequence of our increased visibility; people of color are told we must adopt Euro-centric mannerisms to minimize differences beyond skin color; the honoring of coupling is strictly along heterosexual lines; people in wheelchairs or with other physical disabilities, literally, cannot even get through the door—and this is just the beginning.

When targets challenge the appropriateness of harassing and terrorizing behavior, we are told we are the problem, not the racism, sexism, heterosexism or ableism described. We are labeled trouble-makers, boat-rockers, spoil-sports and non-team players.

In essence, we are being told we have no choice but to put up with obnoxious, rude, offensive and/or threatening behavior on the part of those in power. And that we need to understand "they don't mean any harm." But there is harm in being told that if you want this job, you must accept humiliation, swallow rage and accommodate bigotry. It is humiliating and degrading, which is the intent of such behavior. It is intended to keep the privileged comfortable and the less privileged compliant.

Discussing racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, heterosexism, classism, etc., is terrifying. We are afraid of offending someone; that we may actually think like the Klansman; that we may be offended by something someone else says.

Additionally, white people are also afraid that they will be held accountable and responsible for the sins of their ancestors; that they will be pushed outside their comfort zone; that participating in such discussions will obligate them to make major changes in their lives, including giving up and letting go of privilege.

People of color fear the expression of our rage which comes from years of being treated as less than human; from store owners assuming we are there to steal; high-priced bar owners assuming we are there to whore or pimp; from having enthusiastic response to our inquiry about a job or service, only to discover it is "no longer available" upon our arrival; being told our language and culture are worthless at the same moment in which it is being appropriated on behalf of money-making ventures for white people; from

being historically invisible and having our history riddled with lies and half truths.

Lesbians, gay men and bisexuals are afraid of our rage from years of being made invisible, being ridiculed and having our relationships invalidated.

Women fear our rage because the world is physically unsafe for us and deliberately maintained as such by men; that we are still paid significantly less than men; and that the workers who care for and teach our children, who are mostly female, are underpaid and receive little respect.

None of us wants to feel defensive, or find ourselves thinking, "Do I do that?" as another shares a heart-wrenching story about an experience as a target of oppression. We don't want to hear stereotypes about our own or another's people.

We fear discussing the "isms" because each of us brings an incredible amount of pain into the discussion. We fear the discussion will get out of hand, be hard to control. Mostly we fear our own vulnerability.

The result is we avoid having the discussion. We justify our inaction by saying that we "need to pick and choose our battles." We hope that other people are working on "that stuff" so we can go on with our lives.

One of Whoopi Goldberg's characters, Fontaine, a junky with a Ph.D., states that he gets high so that he won't get angry. "You wouldn't like me if I was angry," Fontaine says.

The uprisings in Los Angeles, San Jose, Toronto, Atlanta and other cities are a consequence of the pent-up rage to which Fontaine refers. It is the result of the pain of being black in America. When people are hurting, if the pain has been sitting there long enough, has been repeatedly ripped open and never allowed to heal, they act out. The point of acting out is to release the energy of the pain. The pain of being repeatedly told in every way imaginable that you do not count.

When people act out in ways we find unacceptable, or believe to be inappropriate, our tendency is to be horrified and to clamp down hard. When white society uses this approach with people of color, in general, and African-Americans, in particular, the result is a repetition of more of the same old thing: law and order campaigns, more talk of Willie Hortons and quotas, and racial division. And more violence. And worse violence. Horrifying violence.

One alternative is to call the question: Do we, individually and collectively, want better relations between people? Do we want a just and equitable society? Answering either of these questions, "yes," makes our path clear: we must learn to talk to one another about our pain, and actively listen to and affirm one another's pain. We must learn about the lives of people different from ourselves; share information about our cultures, histories, spiritualities, religions, families, ourselves and our visions, hopes, dreams and nightmares.

We must look at our friendship and colleague circles—our address books. If our personal world is not reflective of the diverse world we seek to shape, it will be that much harder to achieve our goal. When we search out people different from ourselves for programs and panels, what are the topics we ask them to address? Do we only invite those who are different to educate us about our bigotry and ignorance, assuage our guilt and to avoid accusation?

Are we ready to allow one another the freedom to make mistakes? After all, we are only human and no one is perfect or knows everything there is to know. When we make a mistake which results in offending someone, we need to own our error and not get stuck in defending our intention, insisting on being told we are still good people, or dismissing the accusation by casting the complainant as "being too sensitive."

Building right relations is dependent upon respect for ourselves and for one another. Respecting ourselves means believing we are worth knowing and have something to offer others. Respecting others means honoring differences, learning to respectfully disagree, and to be an ally when those we care about are absent as well as when they are present. Committing to building right relations means we recognize more than one truth often exists in the same place at the same time; that another's reality and truth does not necessarily invalidate or make wrong our truth.

As we begin to feel better about ourselves, owning what has been said or done in our names, we will experience personal security and the broadening of our world view. From this fountainhead of personal power, we will see opportunities to talk about the pain of "isms" as opportunities to do important personal, political, social and global healing. Healing that can best happen when we reach the other side of the hurt, anger and pain.

This is not about "political correctness"—an attempt to "police" people's thoughts and actions. I firmly believe a person has the right to say what they want to say

even if the content is offensive. However, I maintain I have the right, and the moral obligation, to state that I am offended and to take issue with the content.

Framing an objection to offensive and dehumanizing speech as an infringement upon another's right to speak is aimed at silencing challenges to a mean-spirited, narrow-minded dictum which objects to lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, people of color, non-Christians, women, people with disabilities, the poor, the old, the young, and the working-class having any kind of power.

If we want change we must stop being afraid of conflict, no matter how loud and unseemly a discussion may become. If we are avoiding controversy in the name of trying to get something through, we are doing ourselves and our allies a disservice. The right wing has been allowed to seize and reframe every major social issue against the intended beneficiaries because the discussion becomes loud, emotional and threatening when they become involved. The volatility they bring to any issue is, to use their argument, right-wing political correctness.

My Cherokee tradition teaches me that, as a contributor to my communities, I must take into consideration the impact of my actions for seven generations to come. There are moments when my commitment to my tribal teachings and my legacy as an African-American are the only things which keep me going.

For the past 14 years, I have been providing a voice to the impact of racism, sexism and heterosexism on targets and perpetrators. Over the years, as I have learned more about the manifestations of oppression, I have expressed my expanded understanding to include ableism, anti-Semitism, religious and spiritual intolerance, and more. I have been doing this work because of a core belief that there was a time when we did get along; when we were fascinated by differences as opposed to being fearful and repelled by differences.

I would like to experience such a world in this lifetime. I am inviting, on one hand, demanding, on the other, that you join me in this effort to create such a world.

Refuse to be silent in the face of injustice. Confront remarks and jokes made at the expense of others. Object to attempts to silence yours and others' courage. Become allies to and make use of the teachings you believe. Practice the ones you want to believe. Become allies to yourselves and to each other. Become allies to social justice.

Sabrina Sojourner is a freelance writer and Diversity Consultant living in Washington, D.C.

Road to pride

continued from page 3

with lines extending out the door. Individuals and couples from all over the country came to go on the boat ride as well as other scheduled activities. House parties were bountiful throughout the weekend.

Then there was Sunday, "Pride Day." Vendors began setting up at 9 a.m. and the people started coming in at noon. By 3 p.m. over 2000 people were on the field. It started raining about 3:15 p.m. and the people stayed until about 5 p.m., umbrellas in hand. They just wanted to be there. Approximately 2,377 individuals were tallied during the day. We deposited over \$9,200 on the day after the holiday.

Little criticism

Although the organizing committee was very pleased with our accomplishments, we do accept constructive criticism that "the show was too long on the boat ride and not enough time was allotted for dancing" and that "they waited too long to start the entertainment on Pride Day." We are sure that there are a few other items we need to tighten up for next year.

A call to action for all Black lesbians and gay men

We hope that this year's experience in the District of Columbia will be an inspiration for Black lesbians and gay men all over the country to plant their seeds and create their own vision. Using "Black Pride" days as an additional funding source for AIDS service organizations can only serve us well in the long run, and the community of Black lesbians and gay men in the District of Columbia challenges others to do so.

Carlene Cheatham has served as the coordinator of Washington, D.C.'s, and the nation's only, Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day for the past two years. She is also the co-chair for the D.C. Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gay Men.

Porn wars

Continued from page 3



Ontario police seized this issue of *Bad Attitude*



U.S. Customs confiscated a shipment of gay magazines, including this issue of *Babilonia*, en route to Boston's Glad Day bookshop.

"My view is that as far as gay male porn is concerned, we get it from all sides because the Right thinks anything we do is obscene," Stychin told *GCN*. "And MacKinnon and Dworkin line up [with the Right] and say gay males reinforce male supremacist power through representations in pornography."

But WAAP activist Dines says she is anything but Right-wing. "When you sexualize violence against women, you render the violence invisible. Pornography violates women's civil rights, health, safety, and equal pay. As far as the Indianapolis legislation being struck down as unconstitutional, why are Leftists and radicals giving up the fight?"

Consent ignored, S/M targetted

In *Butler*, the Supreme Court of Canada held that with degrading or dehumanizing material, "the appearance of consent is not necessarily determinative." While this re-definition of consent was applauded by some feminists because it emphasises the unique exploitation women face, it troubled those who engage in sado-masochistic sex.

If, under *Butler* or MacKinnon's analysis, the public "community" will not tolerate the extreme degradation of women, will it tolerate any explicit lesbian and gay materials, or any lesbian S/M? Nan Hunter noted, "S/M material often is not explicit at all—it often doesn't depict nudity or genitals. Therefore, S/M requires a sub-category."

"The argument against male S/M is that it's woman hating—the ultra masculinity of it all," Carl Stychin told *GCN*. "But my view is that it's just a parody of masculinity; that it undermines it because everything is just an act, these are just roles people take on or off. MacKinnon and Dworkin take things too literally. I'm sympathetic to their concerns, but I don't think their reasoning holds up when they apply it to gay male porn."

MacKinnon on lesbian sexuality

In her writings and speeches MacKinnon rarely, if ever, mentions lesbian sexuality. For instance, her book, *Feminism Unmodified, Discourses on Life and Law*, a compilation of much of her work, contains only passing reference to lesbians four scant times in the 300 page book. Her extensive resume and curriculum vitae include no writings on lesbian sexuality under the law, although women's civil rights and how jurisprudence affects them is her life's work.

Neither MacKinnon nor Dworkin could be reached for comment.

1980s porn war history

"One of the scenarios we projected in 1985 was that the minute this kind of legislation was passed, they'd go after gay and lesbian literature, that this wasn't really about

helping women so much as providing the right wing an opportunity to swoop down on gay and lesbian culture," said Nancy Ryan, Director of the Cambridge, Mass. Women's Commission and member of FACT. "To see this happening in Toronto—it's not satisfying in any way... even though I'm convinced that men use porn as a tool to abuse women."

In the early and mid-eighties Cambridge women debated pornography legislation and other related topics, such as whether such disparate women's organizations as an S/M group and anti-pornography activists could meet at the Women's Center.

In 1985, according to Nancy Ryan, members of the New York-based Women Against Pornography (WAP) and Massachusetts-based Women's Alliance Against Pornography attempted to introduce the MacKinnon-Dworkin legislation in Cambridge, defining pornography as a violation of a woman's human rights, according to Ryan.

The amendment was defeated by a 60-40 margin. As part of the campaign, WAAP activist Dines presented a slide show on pornography. Barbara Hildt told *GCN* that it was Dines' slideshow that inspired her to introduce the Massachusetts legislation. FACT activists such as Nancy Ryan have long criticized the accuracy of Dine's show.

Anti-porn law underway in Mass. would bar penetration

In Massachusetts last March, Representative Barbara Hildt (D-Essex) introduced legislation (House Bill 5194) similar to MacKinnon's Indianapolis legislation. The Massachusetts Bill defines pornography (including depictions of penetration by objects) as degradation and a practice of sex discrimination that violates the civil rights of women. It would permit victims of sexual violence to bring a civil suit against producers and distributors of pornography if they can prove the material bore direct relation to their injury. The legislation does not define "objects" nor does it exclude dildos used for pleasure.

"In no way is this bill intended to curb expression, especially gay and lesbian expression," Hildt told *GCN*. "My hope is to raise consciousness about the whole problem of violence against women. I'm not anti-pornography. I'm anti-violence."

Those who testified against the legislation during hearings at the State House were concerned with censorship, liability for book-sellers and publishers, and how better to reduce violence against women through, for instance, substance abuse programs and job training.

Hildt could not readily explain why existing criminal and tort law does not suffice to curb violence against women, especially since causation will be difficult to prove under the bill. One clause in Hildt's legislation would prohibit distribution of video pornography without the consent of the person(s) filmed, such as home porn videos. Existing licensing and libel laws would seemingly cover such injuries.

Representative Hildt doesn't give her bill much chance of success. It is currently being held by the House Judiciary Committee and most probably will die there without going to the floor of the House.

Helping straight men?

Do such laws help men? *Bad Attitude's* Jasmine Sterling says this type of legislation lets men who rape or attack women after seeing porn off the hook. "They always point out that serial killers have porn in their homes, but don't most Americans have some form of it at home?"

Nan Hunter agrees, "I call it the Rapist Exculpation Act because it completely plays into the idea that men are not responsible for their acts. I think it's really a lunatic theory of causation."

National legislation

National anti-pornography legislation introduced by Senator Mitch McConnell (R-Ky) and co-sponsored by Strom Thurmond (R-SC) and Charles Crassley (R-IA) has in fact been dubbed the "Ted Bundy Bill" because of the born-again serial killer's "confession" that porn made him do it.

Like the Massachusetts Bill, The Pornography Victim's Compensation Act of 1991 (S.1521) permits civil suits against purveyors of "obscene material," allegedly the motivating factor in a sexual assault. It stands a good chance of being voted out of the Senate Judiciary Committee, according to legislative aides. Even if it isn't, it can reach the Senate floor as an amendment attached to other legislation.

Here, too, the battle lines are drawn. But in an interesting twist, the MacKinnon forces have distanced themselves from the legislation since it was amended to only permit suit where the plaintiff is a victim of rape or sexual assault, whereas the Massachusetts legislation allows suit based on a wide variety of harms, including sexual harassment. (Apparently, the Congressional committee is

For the Activist in You

International

- Demand that the Republic of Lithuania stop jailing gay men for sex and activism. One arrested man, the chair of the Lithuanian Human Rights Committee, a group recognized by the United Nations, faces sentencing of 3-8 years. Write the Minister of the Republic of Lithuania, Tumo-Vaizganto 2, LT-2039 Vilnius, Lithuania. Info: ILGA, 81 Rue Marche-au-Charbon, B-1000 Brussels 1, Belgium; (32) 2-5022471.

- Urge the Romanian Ministry of Justice to repeal Article 200, which criminalizes consensual same-sex relations: Lucian Stingu, Ministry of Justice, Bd. M. Kogalniceanu 33, Bucharest, Romania. Info: (415) 255-8680. Info: (415) 255-8680.

National

- Protest anti-gay slurs in John Leo's column in *U.S. News & World Report*. Write: Mortimer Zuckerman, Chair & Editor-in-Chief, U.S. News & World Report, 2400 N St., NW, Washington, DC 20037-1196. Info: GLAAD, (212) 807-1700.

- Demand the release of Yvonne Melendez Carrion from prison on charges of general conspiracy arising from her involvement as a Puerto Rican independentista. Carrion served 16 months in pretrial detention, has been under house arrest for six years and met all conditions of her pretrial custody and bail. She has suffered enough. Write: Judge T.F. Gilroy Daly, Federal Courthouse, Bridgeport, Conn. 06604. Info: Comite de Mujeres Puertorriquenas-Miriam Lopez Perez, P.O. Box 279, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

- Protest Texaco's withdrawal of funding from PBS' *Great Performances* series in order to remove funding from a gay-themed work (David Leavitt's *Lost Language of Cranes*). Write: James Kinneer, Pres. & CEO, Texaco, Inc., 2000 Westchester Ave., White Plains, NY 10650; fax (914) 253-7753. Also thank *Great Performances* for the gay theme: Jac Venza, Exec. Dir., Great Performances, WNET, 356 W. 58th St., New York, NY 10019. Info: Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, (212) 807-1700.

- Plan now for demonstrations during the Democratic National Convention (July 13-16, New York City) and Republican National Convention (August 17-20, Houston). Info: NGLTF, (202) 332-6483.

- To get a petition sheet demanding Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores rescind its anti-gay personnel policy, contact NGLTF: 1734 14th St., NW, Washington, DC 20009; (202) 332-6483.

- Call Ross Perot's campaign to demand that he support rights for lesbians, bisexuals and gays. Condemn his statement that appointing gay people to positions of power is too "controversial": (800) 685-7777, (800) 874-7916, (800) 933-6516 and (800) 925-1300.

- Call to inform the creators of a hotline that provides the names of "AIDS Negative [sic] Health Care Professionals" that you oppose their promotion of discrimination against HIV+ people: 1-800-982-AIDS; fax (606) 325-4507. Write: Pamela Evans, President, 352 W. Central Ave. Ashland, KY 41101.

- Send telegrams to your legislators urging the support of the recently-passed DC domestic partner's ordinance. Call: 1-800-641-1818 x9247.

New England

- Rally at the Mass. State House June 9, 10 a.m.-noon to protest cuts to the Elderly, Disabled and Children's aid (formerly general relief). Also, call your representative and Ways and Means Chair Finneran (617) 722-2990 and Speaker Flaherty (617) 722-2500 to ask support of the Kollios EDC disability amendment to restore funding for needy people with disabilities. Info: Mass. Law Reform, Steve Savner or Richard Cauchi, (617) 742-9250.

- Lobby for lesbian, gay and bisexual rights, June 16, 12:30-2 p.m., Nurses Hall, Mass. State House. Demand the repeal of sodomy laws, funding for AIDS, support for queer youth. Info: Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights, (617) 828-3039.

- Call City Council to protest the Charlestown Neighborhood Council's plans for a statue of a slave and pirate ship: (617) 725-3040. Info: Rep. Byron Rushing, (617) 722-2000.

- Defend Boston's abortion clinics against Operation Rescue's planned assault on them during the month of June. Every weekday in June, 7-9:30 a.m.; every Saturday 6:45 a.m. to noon at the four Boston area clinics: 1842 Beacon St., Brookline, 1297 Beacon St., 1031 Beacon St., and 177 Tremont St., Boston. Info: NOW, (617) 782-4127.

- Join feminists the day the Supreme Court announces its decision in the *Pennsylvania* case (sometime before July 3), which will undoubtedly further restrict women's rights. Meet 5:30 p.m., Federal Courthouse, Post Office Square, Boston. Info: NOW, (617) 782-4127.

- Operation Urban Storm, first annual pledge walk to benefit youth services and AIDS education, June 20. Info: Gang Peace, Rodney Dailey (617) 442-1919.

- Support the demands of Boston's coalition of communities of color drawn up in reaction to the LA acquittal:

- Demand Mayor Flynn create an independent police review board, restore the Boston school budget to the 1990 level of \$398 million, stop interfering with school Supt. Harrison-Jones, amend the Boston Jobs Ordinance to insure at least 50 percent people of color are hired on all city-sponsored development projects, gather resources for 10,000 meaningful summer jobs for community kids, and promote voter registration by allowing churches, social services and community groups to be registration sites. Flynn: (617) 635-4476; Boston City Hall, Boston MA 02201.

- Demand that Gov. Weld restore day-care slots to at least the level of FY92, provide funds and support to Roxbury Community College (no mergers!) and the College of Public and Community Service at UMass (must remain in downtown location), and appoint a person of color as the next District Attorney of Suffolk County. Weld: (617) 727-3600; State House, Boston, MA 02133.

- Demand that both Flynn and Weld pressure banks to live up to the commitment they made to the Community Reinvestment Coalition to invest one billion dollars in communities of color over 5 years (no more bank redlining!), and redistribute health care dollars based on need and not politics.

- Demand that news channels 4,5 and 7 diversify senior staff to reduce bias in reporting.

Info: Urban League, (617) 442-4519; Freedom House, (617) 445-3700.

- Write Sen. Kennedy and Sen. Kerry, demand leadership on fighting racist economics in L.A. and nationwide: 315 Russell Senate Building, Washington DC 20510. Info: YWCA, Lisa Jones, Ines Maturana (617) 536-7940.

- Oppose the death penalty in Mass., introduced by Gov. Weld March 12 (Bill H.5373). Write your state senator and rep. c/o State House, Boston MA 02133. Info: Mass. Committee Against the Death Penalty (617) 367-8125.

Got activist news? Call, write or fax: (617) 426-2723.

—Carrie Wofford

deliberating whether to narrow the legislation to permit civil suit only where the primary defendant was first convicted of the rape or assault.)

Anti-censorship feminists find the Bill alarming for different reasons of course. FACT activists Carole Vance and Ann Snitow wrote to Committee Chair Joseph Biden last month, "No one would consider extending such legislation to bank robbers... [who] saw *Bonnie and Clyde*," and suggested that the bill has more to do with suppressing sexual and erotic materials than preventing violence.

The Act also raises problematic legal questions. Foremost, is that criminal obscenity law would be collapsed into a civil suit—with its lower burden of proof. Moreover, unless the bill is amended, it is conceivable that a distributor of porn could be liable for a rape while the rapist was not.

A victory for the Right wing?

Like the flurry surrounding the Meese Commission on Pornography six years ago, the McConnell bill could present another example of the Right wing's cooptation of women's concerns about violence and its divide-and-conquer strategy against marginalized groups displayed so brilliantly during the Thomas confirmation hearings. Already, the National Organization for Women's California and New York chapters have come out against the legislation, although others have not.

In an election year in which Republicans' united front against abortion rights is showing hairline cracks in its veneer, and Bush is seeking to appease the party's far Right, anti-censorship activists expect Bush to offer political anti-porn grandstanding. His National Endowment for the Arts head,

Continued on page 6

AIDS Treatment Notes

AIDS dementia: An inaccurate, irresponsible label

An informal survey of 100 HIV positive people in San Francisco asked what aspect of the HIV disease they feared most. The survey revealed that people feared pain most, dementia second, death third and disfigurement fourth.

AIDS Dementia is a term commonly used in medical literature and in discussions about AIDS. It is all too often a convenient diagnosis for symptoms that result from treatable—and often quite minor—conditions that have other causes. When attempted to be used correctly, it is an outdated term for a rare condition that is not yet understood.

The AIDS Dementia Complex (ADC) label has been thrown around for years by doctors and social workers for a mishmash of reasons (from ignorance to incompetence). It lumps together symptoms such as short-term memory loss, impaired cognitive functions, erratic behavior, movement or motor activity, depression, anxiety, fear, or mania, despite the fact that they result from a variety of sources which, in many cases, are treatable. "Mysterious bugs" that cause this bogus condition are often as simple as drug-induced mood swings, drug interactions, or opportunistic infections. However, when jotted down on a medical record, ADC can assist officials in taking control of the business affairs, medical decisions, and other aspects of the life of an HIV positive person or PWA, even against their will.

Actual clinical dementia, which was renamed by the American Academy of Neurology Task Force on AIDS in June, 1991 to "HIV-1-Associated Cognitive Motor Complex," occurs in a tiny fraction of PWA's. Its mechanism and underlying science has not yet been identified. As a result, it is irresponsible to use it to lump together and characterize symptoms that in most cases have other causes. An August 1991 BETA article, "Management of Mood and Anxiety Disorders in People With HIV Disease," points out that AZT and other medications taken by PWA's can cause Anxiety, Depression, Mania and Insomnia—conditions which are manageable with antidepressants, change in drug regimen, counseling, or a combination of these treatments. Monitoring symptoms is another classic way to catch these common mood disorders early. For example, monitoring the lithium levels in the blood can help diagnose (and therefore treat) Mania.

While agreeing that the ADC label is outdated, Dr. Mark Halman, Clinical Research Fellow at the Andrews Unit of AIDS Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital, emphasizes that "People with HIV-1-associated neuropsychiatric symptomatology should feel comfortable coming forward for evaluation and availing themselves of potential treatment interventions." In short, if a PWA has neurological symptoms, they should see their doctor and discuss them.

Opportunistic infections that affect the brain, such as Toxoplasmosis and Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy (PML), can cause neurological symptoms such as changes in vision, coordination, and speech patterns. If, for example, Toxoplasmosis (which is treatable) is left misdiagnosed with the ADC label (and therefore not treated), it can cause unchecked brain damage, and even unnecessary death.

"It's a bad label, and I've been saying so for five years," said Dr. Martin Hirsch, a prominent AIDS researcher, also at Massachusetts General Hospital, when asked about the terms AIDS Dementia Complex.

Ironically, Hirsch is the principal investigator on the drug trial of Nimodipine for "Dementia Complex." (Maybe it's peer pressure.) Nimodipine is a calcium channel blocker, which "may or may not" interfere with the effect of HIV's GP120 (a protein on the outside of HIV) in humans, which in turn may or may not impact the cause of "AIDS Dementia Complex."

We suggest that the ADC label be removed from medical use, which includes the names of clinical trials for new agents (help us out here, Marty).

PWAs, check your medical records! We encourage you to look for the term and have it removed. If you see or hear someone use the term, correct the user and insist that they speak of specific symptoms or causes.

For more information about the misnomer ADC, and about neurological signs of opportunistic infections, contact the Resource Library at (617) 437-6200, ext.432.

—By David Peck, a member of ACT UP/Boston's Treatment Committee. Please address your questions to: ACT UP Boston, P.O.Box 483, Kendall Square Station, Cambridge, MA 02142, or better yet, join us! Tuesdays, 7 pm, YWCA 7th floor, 140 Clarendon Street

IN, LOUD AND PROUD:

GCN's top 10 list

GCN's list of the top ten silliest closeted words, terms and symbols used for the names of lesbian, gay and bisexual organizations (as well as on pride T-shirts, postcards, bumper stickers, rubber stamps, etc., etc., etc.):

- 10: Bromfield Street
- 9: Bay Windows
- 8: Lambda
- 7: Lavender
- 6: Triangle
- 5: Pride
- 4: Human Rights; Individual Rights
- 3: Ten Percent
- 2: Equal Rights
- 1: Out

—compiled by Wofford and Wittke

LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE EVENTS:

[A partial listing from the national chair of Lesbian and Gay Pride Committees:]

- June 6: Asbury Park, NJ; Montpelier, Vt.
- June 7: Detroit; Santa Cruz; Baltimore.
- June 13: Boston; Boise, Ida.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Montgomery, Ala.; San Jose; Las Vegas.
- June 14: Huntington, Long Island, NY; San Jose.
- June 19: Concord, NH.
- June 20: Kansas City, Kan.; Pittsburgh; Henniker, NH; Portland, Ore.; Hartford; Providence, RI; Milwaukee, Wisc.
- June 21: Wichita, Kan.; Philadelphia; Washington, DC.
- June 27: Cape Cod and Islands; Los Angeles; New York City.
- June 28: New York City; Seattle; Chicago; San Francisco; Los Angeles; Houston; South Dakota; South Fla.; St. Louis, Mo.; Denver; Toronto.
- July 19: San Diego.

Porn wars

Continued from page 5

alleged (but not avowed) lesbian Anne-Imelda Radice is poised to take up the cudgel on the arts front—having already assured Congress that she will veto funding for erotic art and "difficult subject matter" (see GCN, Vol. 19, No. 41-42).

Hunter observed, "My concern is that because Senators are smart enough to understand the gender gap, they'll see this as a cheap and easy way to get women's votes."

Judith Levine, co-chair of the Political Issues Committee of the National Writer's Union and a member of FACT thinks that Senators on the Judiciary Committee (like Rep. Hildt in Massachusetts perhaps) may not have realized the complexity of the issue for women. "Our feeling is that... the Judiciary Committee thought... women wanted the legislation, especially after watching Anita Hill. It's as if the Senators were saying, 'You thought we weren't protecting you then. We will now.' But in reality, women's rights activists are split 50-50 [on the issue]."

Even if the legislation does pass the Senate, which observers think it will, Levine doesn't give it a good shot at winning in the House. But stay tuned for the Porn Wars Part II. And don't bet that the ramifications of such legislation for gay and lesbian sexual expression will get much play from politicians or the straight media. Then, turn your channel to the backlash.

Newsnotes

Continued from page 2

After an animated showdown between lesbian and gay activists and some of the wackiest characters from the religious right on May 27, the Commission unanimously approved a framework for the next decade's health textbooks that calls for specific mention of the words "lesbian," "gay" and "sexual orientation."

The infamous Rev. Louis Sheldon kicked off the vitriol at the hearing, assailing the textbook framework as "social [in]doctrination" and offering detailed descriptions of sperm entering the anus and a videotape of topless women at the San Francisco and L.A. pride parades.

Lesbian and gay activists countered with testimony about isolation, depression and suicide. "If I knew of Lou Sheldon when I was [in high school], I might not be here today. I might have committed suicide," Katie Dwight, a 23-year-old lesbian, testified.

The Commission sent the new framework for health textbooks for the next ten years to the Board of Education, which is expected to vote on it by August.

—Rachel Timoner

Gay Community News

Gay Community News is produced by a collective dedicated to providing coverage of events and news in the interest of gay and lesbian liberation. The collective consists of a paid staff of ten, a general membership of volunteers, and a board of directors elected by the membership.

Opinions reflected in "editorials" represent the views of the paid staff collective. Signed letters and columns represent the views and opinions of the authors only. We encourage all readers to send us comments, criticism, and information, and to volunteer and become members.

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Gay Community News is published weekly (except for the last week of April, August and December), by the Bromfield Street Educational Foundation, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. Our office is located at 62 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116, (617) 426-4469, FAX: (617) 426-2723, TTY/TDD: (617) 426-0332 Second-class postage paid at Boston, Mass. Annual subscription rate for individuals is \$39. Institutional rate: \$55. ISSN: [0147-0728].

Member Gay and Lesbian Press Association, New England Press Association, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, COSMEP. GCN is included in the Alternative Press Index, published quarterly by the Alternative Press Center, Inc., Box 33109, Baltimore, MD 21218. Volumes 1-15 of GCN are available on microfilm for \$40/volume, \$550/complete set. Write GCN/Microfilm for more information.

FYI

- Join Lesbian and Gay Audiologists and Speech pathologists for Boston Pride march, June 13. Meet at Government Center subway stop between 11:30 a.m.-noon at L'Gasp sign. Info: (617) 648-8245.
- New Afro Lesbian and Gay Club in Ghana trying to establish links between all gay men and lesbians and fight for the release of all imprisoned for being gay (homosexuality is illegal in Ghana). Info: International Lesbian and Gay Organization, 81 rue Marche-au-Charbon, B-1000 Brussels 1, Belgium; Micha Ramakers, (32) 2-502-2471.
- "Hyke for Health" benefit for terminally ill lesbians, June 14, Columbus, Ohio. Info: Lesbian Health Care Fund, (614) 481-7656.
- L.A. gay flag football league is seeking teams/individuals nationwide to participate in the 1994 Gay Games in NYC. Gay Games organizers need a demonstration of interest to offer football in 1994. Call Jim Buzinski, (213) 258-5788. Gay Games info: (212) 633-9494 or (212) 686-4551.
- Old Lesbians Organizing for Change (OLOC) will hold its biannual meetings where there is a nucleus of old lesbians who wish to arrange participation at the local level. OLOC also facilitates the formation of new groups of lesbians, age 60 and over, provides education regarding ageism and stimulates existing groups to confront ageism. Info: P.O. Box 980422, Houston, TX 77098.
- New Boston College Lesbian and Gay Alumni Group. Started May 12. Info: (617) 552-2979, or David Mills (508) 281-1200.
- New Boston lesbian/gay playwrights group. Info: Paul, (617) 436-5017.

Need help?

- New anti-violence project in N.H. Seacoast Anti-Violence Project. Call 24 hours/day: (603) 427-2470.
- Free mammograms for any uninsured woman in the Washington, DC metro area. Offered by the Betty Ford Comprehensive Breast Center. Contact Judy Macon (202) 293-6654.
- Short on food money? Call the food stamp hotline in Mass: (800) 645-8333.
- Beware of home improvement scams. Info: (617) 426-9000.
- PWAs: You may be eligible for Mass. welfare benefits under new revisions: If you have Toxoplasmosis, vaginal candidiasis, chronic pelvic inflammatory disease, a T cell count of 200 or fewer with evidence of limitation of daily activities, or one (down from two) common opportunistic infections. Contact Mass. Law Reform (617) 742-9250, Coal. for Basic Human Needs (617) 497-0126, or (617) 49-ACT UP, which negotiated the changes.
- If you were cut off from Mass. General Relief, you may be able to get Emergency Aid. New groups added: certain two-parent families; if you are caring for children unrelated to you; if you are not a U.S. citizen, and do not have a green card. Contact your social worker or Greater Boston Legal Services (617) 357-5757.

Conferences

- Call for papers for interdisciplinary scholarly conference, "Toward a History of the 1960's," April 27-30, 1993, Madison. Papers on gay liberation, women's movement, radical left movements, etc., due Oct. 1: David Myers, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State St., Madison WI 53706; (608) 262-9586
- National Task Force on AIDS Prevention's AIDS Institute, "By Any Means Necessary: Innovative Programs for Gay Men of Color," June 22, Dallas. Info: (415) 749-6700; 631 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.
- 12th Annual Convention of the National Association of Black and White Men Together, June 22, Dallas. Info: (214) 521-4765 or (800) 624-2968.
- First National Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men in Mainstream Media, June 25-27. Info: National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Assoc. (415) 474-5991.

—Carrie Wofford

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Pride '92



Urvashi Vaid

A THOUSAND POINTS OF CONTENTION:

what is the agenda of the lesbian and gay movement and who sets it?

A conversation with Michael Bronski and Urvashi Vaid

Urvashi Vaid and I have worked together — on *GCN* and other projects — for almost 10 years. The bulk of this conversation took place last fall before Urvashi's decision to leave her job as the Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). We recently spoke again before transcribing the tape of our conversation, updating and illuminating some of our earlier comments. If the conversation sometimes seems a little contentious, it is not antagonism but mutual respect that spurs us along. — *M.B.*

Michael Bronski: I wanted to talk about the conflicts — political conflicts — that we all deal with in the gay and lesbian movement. Maybe a good place to start is with the attack on you by writer Paul Varnell.

Urvashi Vaid: Paul Varnell attacked me in a column he wrote in *Windy City Times* [a Chicago-based gay newspaper] about a speech I had given at the National Lesbian Conference in which I said that it was a dangerous time for lesbians because — and this was the image I used — “the world had taken off its ugly white hood to show its racist, sexist, homophobic and capitalist face.” And Varnell wrote that it was ironic that the head of NGLTF was attacking capitalism when communism was falling apart and gay brothers and sisters in Leningrad are fighting for their lives as gay people and when small gay business forms the backbone of the gay community. That was his basic point.

Bronski: That's clearly meant as harsh, or at least provocative, criticism. How do you feel about that?

Vaid: I think he misunderstands what I was saying. But he is voicing a sentiment, maybe it's a confusion, out in the gay community.

We don't talk about money. We don't talk about what kind of an economic order we are working towards as a movement. Very little is written or spoken about that and it is very loaded for any of us to talk about these issues.

Bronski: This ties in fairly closely with something else I wanted to talk about and that was the statement of NGLTF's staff and board against the Persian Gulf War — or rather, to be a little more honest in its moniker — America's war against Iraq. Didn't you receive a great deal of criticism about that, not only in the gay press but on the street as well? I know many, many people in Boston-based gay political groups who were up in arms about the statement. People I don't particularly respect, but lots of people nevertheless.

Vaid: We did receive a lot of criticism, but we also received a lot of praise. Although I suspect that the criticism was much louder. If we tallied up all of the letters we received the total was probably 60 percent against our statement and 40 percent in favor of it. And it wasn't so much that people felt that it was wrong to oppose the war. They felt it was wrong for a gay organization to take a stand on this issue since it wasn't a “gay issue.”

Bronski: How do you answer that?

Vaid: I think it's a very narrow view of what a gay liberation organization should be about. Some people wrote saying, “I give you my dollars for you to represent me on gay rights issues, not on foreign policy issues.” Well, first of all there was a direct connection to gay rights issues here. The military is the largest homophobic employer in the country who are actively — not just passively by refusing to employ — but *actively* destroying the lives of lesbians and gay men.

But also in our statement opposing the war we spoke very clearly about the wrong priorities of our government in supporting this

intervention at a time when it couldn't get behind the most modest increases in the AIDS budget. And at a time when every piece of our agenda in Washington — every single piece, from anti-gay violence to a reform of the tax code that is needed to recognize our relationships to family issues and childcare and employment discrimination — has a price tag attached to it.

And that's another thing that our movement does not really talk about. We lobby for these bills but what we have to remember is that we work in an environment in which there is a limited amount of money — they say — to go around. We are pitted against other people fighting for the same pie and then the country's priorities are to fund the space program and give it a 10 percent increase while they won't give the AIDS budget a 10 percent increase. I think that it is perfectly legitimate for the Task Force and for the gay and lesbian communities of this country to question these priorities of our government. If we were to use a very middle-of-the-road argument — the “we as taxpayers” argument (which, by the way, we as a movement have never really used) — why shouldn't we question where those dollars go? I am very proud of the board for taking that position. It also helped form an alliance with the peace movement and other social action groups, which is also very important.

Bronski: The reason I brought this up, and what I find curious about both Paul Varnell's attack on you and the board's anti-war statement, is that NGLTF has always been seen as a gay rights organization and not a gay liberation organization. And I think that your vision — and the vision you are talking about here — is much more of a gay liberation vision: an inclusive political vision that is fighting for real social change rather than a single issue gay rights agenda.

There has always been a tension between these two visions — right from the winter of 1969 in Manhattan when some people left the more radical Gay Liberation Front to start the more mainstream, electoral-oriented Gay Activists Alliance. How do you see these tensions playing themselves out today?

Vaid: Of course these tensions are always there. It is the tension between social change and assimilation. And, as I see it, both poles are right. There is no right and wrong — one vision just goes further than the other. Legitimacy would have us work towards the passage of gay rights bills and be accepted by society and be left alone (in a “privacy argument” sort of way). Liberation sees those gay rights bills as just the first step to reshaping the government and institutions into institutions that actually reaffirm our lives. As far as NGLTF goes I see our whole multi-focus approach as a very liberation-oriented approach. And, as you said, this is a very old dichotomy.

Bronski: What I've found interesting — especially since you've been the Executive Director of the Task Force — is that this dichotomy has been highlighted as never before. There are a lot of people interested in a single-issue gay rights agenda and they are not very eager to look beyond that to other agendas. And, in fact, those other agendas come into conflict with their political beliefs and plans.

One aspect of this is who we make alliances with, which for me brings up the whole question of gay Republicans. Just this past year we have seen a huge move in the press — both gay and straight — to legitimize gay Republicans. From articles in *The Advocate* to *The New Republic* to *OutWeek* there seems to be a popular consensus that however small their numbers, gay Republicans are a political force to be reckoned with. But it seems to be that there are real limits that occur when you begin to make alliances with certain groups.

Vaid: There are tensions that come up, of course, but I don't think that should limit the alliances that we make. Ever since the 1988 National Republican convention — when I was there organizing a gay presence for the Task Force and we got spit at, pushed and shoved and it was very violent and very anti-gay — when I've gone around speaking, I always try to say that gay and lesbian Republicans should be supported so that they can work within the party to change this sort of behavior and mentality. It is only going to

happen from within.

The Democratic party didn't accept us overnight, and they are still not doing nice things for us, despite the massive organizing by gay and lesbian Democrats. Homophobia is deeply entrenched in both the Democratic and Republican parties. And, also, there are progressive people in both parties. I support gay and lesbian Republicans organizing and *totally* believe that the only way that this administration is going to be held accountable is when lesbian and gay Republicans demand changes and when wealthy gay and lesbian donors throw their muscle around a little bit.

Bronski: But you're taking the easy side of the question. What about the tensions?

Vaid: Yes, there are tensions. I don't want to minimize them. There are differences around the “vision” of our movement and that is what we are fighting about. And every piece of the gay and lesbian community feels an ownership — and rightfully so — in the movement. So the gay Republicans feel this ownership and they say: “It's my movement too and you, Urvashi, don't speak for me when you go off and oppose the war that my president declared.” And what it comes down to is that we are arguing a profound question: What is the role of our movement and, ultimately, our organizations?

Bronski: This seems to me to be a very optimistic view of the problem. In *The Advocate* there was a Vox Populi piece by Marvin Leibman in which he states that gay Republicans “represent a strong, albeit hidden constituency” who should insert themselves “into the party apparatus” to cause change from within. He was implying that more work, more effective work, could be done by remaining closeted. This seems to be something that you and I would disagree with. It goes against the very center of one of the most profound tenets of the lesbian and gay liberation movement (and probably the gay rights movement as well), which is to “come out.”

Vaid: Of course, I totally agree with you. It's absurd to think that we will wield any power as gay people if we are not supported by a very out-front, militant, organized, in-your-face, in-the-streets community. The reason we have made progress is that we have organized ourselves into a visible force. At the Task Force we still cannot go to senators and say, “You should vote this way because there are 40,000 gay people in your district and they will vote against you.” It's because there are so many closeted people and we don't vote as a block; the lavender vote is something of a myth. We have some evidence and some exit polls but it isn't very widespread. The other thing I have to disagree with Marvin about is that behind-the-scenes deal-making has resulted in the mess that we call the world today. That is not a strategy that anyone who wants to make social change, or change the status quo, could support.

Bronski: But isn't that the main contention here? Many gay people, whether they are gay Republicans or not, want to enact gay rights laws to protect themselves but they do not want to change the status quo or change the world. They are perfectly happy with it the way it is.

Vaid: Yes, and that's the difference between a liberation vision that *does* want to change the status quo and one that wants to keep it. It's not even that we *want* to change the status quo but that I feel that for you and me to live our lives as lesbians and gay men everything is going to have to change. And a lot of things have changed.

Bronski: Things have changed but we both have to admit that this change hasn't come easily and that we can't ever stop pushing for more change. I think that one of the complications here is that the tensions exist not so much along party lines but between those people, the liberationists (or however they define themselves) and those people who might be labeled gay isolationists or neo-conservatives. I think that one of the most prominent places we see this tension is supporting gay candidates who are Republicans and who support a whole battery of what we

Continued on page 13



John Preston

JOHN PRESTON, PROUD TO BE A PORNOGRAPHER

A GCN Q&A

Compiled by
Christopher Wittke

If you had to pick three words to sum up John Preston's life and career as a writer and editor (so far), among your choices would have to be "eclectic," "prolific" and "groundbreaking." Preston is the former editor of *The Advocate* and *Drummer*. He has written many books, including *Tranny*, *Queen of Provincetown* and the Alex Kane series of adventure novels. Among the anthologies he has edited are *Personal Dispatches: Writers Confront AIDS* and *Hometowns: Gay Men Write About Where They Belong*.

But Preston's greatest degree of notoriety may, in fact, stem from his career as a pornographer, a label he embraces wholeheartedly even in the midst of a political climate that is especially repressive of such work. He is the creator of the seminal (so to speak) SM novel *Mr. Benson* as well as the "Master" series.

The most recent anthology edited by Preston, *Flesh and the Word*, is an outright celebration of pornographic writing, featuring an array of authors such as Aaron Travis, Anne Rice, Pat Califia, Larry Townsend and Michael Lassell. Given the times, it seems simply astounding that a mainstream publishing house like Dutton would even touch this over 350-page collection of stories that detail explicit male homosex of every stripe. But perhaps this is a testament to Preston's commitment to exploring the importance of pornography in the lives of gay people. In the next year, Badboy publishers will release 12 books of Preston's porn, including *Tales from the Dark Lord* and two out-of-print novels, *Mr. Benson* and *The Heir*. In the following Q&A, Preston discusses the state of the pornographic art today.

Why does today's gay porn suck?

It's not that there isn't any good writing out there. The problem is that so few of the publishers of porn care about quality. Most of them are only interested in filling up the white space between the photographs. Every once in a while an editor will make a difference in one of the magazines through personal initiative. Actually, *Advocate Men* has been pretty good in the past couple years, first while Pat Califia was editor, now with J.E. Morris.

Do you think it's important for readers to understand the history of gay porn?

I only want people to understand that there is a history to gay porn. Erotic fiction of some sort has always been available to the very rich, but it was considered too dangerous to let it get into the hands of the populace; that was especially true for gay porn. It's only been in the last 15 years or so that there's

been gay porn available. In *Flesh and the Word* I reprint some stuff that Sam Steward (aka Phil Andros) wrote in the '50s. But that was personal communication between him and the photographer George Platt Lynes, who would repay Sam for the favor by sending him pictures of naked men.

In the late '70s there started to be some decent porn being published by people who really cared about the stuff, who thought that it should be well written and decently edited. John Devere, the founding editor of *Mandate*, was one. John Embry, the old publisher of *Drummer*, was another. People had problems with those men's aesthetics sometimes, but there's no question that they cared about the writing they published.

Embry especially had a great sense for editors and John Rowberry and Steven Saylor were wonderful at their jobs. Rowberry's now the editor of *Inches* and *Stallion*. Both he and Saylor (aka Aaron Travis) also self-publish all kinds of fascinating erotic material. Aaron Travis's wrestling 'zine is the most obsession-ridden, fascinating, hot porn being done right now. It's hard to find the stuff, but it's worth the search. It's justification of the wonder of desktop publishing that he can get it out at all.

Desktop publishing and other forms of computer-produced porn is the wave of the future, by the way. Whoever owns the printing press... Well, the computer and its accessories have dramatically democratized publishing. It's become possible for people to get their material out in ways that were never dreamt of. Look at the computer bulletin boards and the number of them that have places where writers can leave their material for readers. Electronics may just overcome prudery in the end.

How does some gay porn come to be considered "classic" in the genre?

In all the same ways that any kind of writing gets validated. There seems to be an apparent quality that separates some writing from its competition, for one thing. That writing is more accessible to critics and to readers both. Just like the rest of the literary world, perseverance is rewarded. There have been some good writers who quickly disappeared. They didn't like the money or the people they had to deal with or whatever. To be acknowledged, a writer often has to stick with it and create a body of work before he or she can be judged—it doesn't make any difference what kind of writing's involved. Sam Steward and I never made a whole lot of money from porn, but we kept on writing it and finding places to publish it. At some point, given at least a modicum of quality, name recognition enters into the equation. It's assumed you're important because you're known.

I've been very lucky in that way. The very first writing I did for publication was *Mr.*

Benson. It was serialized in *Drummer* and then was published as a book. *Mr. Benson* spawned a cult, there's no other way to describe the response it got. The editors assumed at first that I'd have to have this material published under a pseudonym. No one would want to own up to thinking up that kind of sleaze. I went along for a while, but then I saw what a phenomenon this publication was and I ran back to them and insisted that they acknowledge me as the author. I've always been able to attract an audience for my porn since; the notoriety created my audience.

Does contemporary gay porn serve the same purpose in the lives of its readers as porn did for readers in the pre-Stonewall era?

There was hardly any porn before Stonewall. What existed was most often very coy—the physique magazines that I used to buy at the kiosk in Harvard Square are examples. They referred to "Greek culture" and "masculine friendships," but hardly any of them acknowledged homosexuality, let alone promoted it. What did exist was hard to find and usually distributed under the camouflage of being historical or literary.

That porn did have at least one function in common with today's erotic material. I'm still stunned by how many people talk about their coming out and describe their feelings that they were the only ones. I live in such a totally gay environment that it seems impossible to me, but people do respond that way. Porn, like any other kind of gay art, tells people that they aren't alone. There are others that share their excitements and their turn ons.

I've been doing oral histories of gay men in Maine for the past few years. It's incredible to hear how many men found their first significant connection with the gay world through a porn magazine. It had meaning and substance for them that goes beyond any argument about porn's place in the world that I've ever heard.

Is there any doubt in your mind that right-wing and anti-porn activists are in the process of launching an all-out censorship war on pornographic expression?

None. Just watching the way that Pat Buchanan swung the Bush primary campaign to the right was bone-chilling, because this coming election is going to provide many more opportunities for even liberal candidates to abandon First Amendment positions. Like all true believers, especially like their anti-abortion allies, the anti-porn activists are going to be willing to do anything to promote their cause. They'll have plenty of opportunities to do that this fall. I'm afraid they'll have even more chances after the election.

My only real hope is in the common sense of the people. That's a treacherous ground upon which to stand, but I don't know how else artistic expression is going to survive. I can only hope that more people are like my mother. She's in her 60s, the Republican town clerk of Medfield, Massachusetts. She recently came to a group reading that I was in. Some of the stuff was pretty racy. People wanted to know what she thought of this. I finally asked her. "I could have left the room if I wanted to," she answered. Now *that's* a good New England attitude. I just hope we can find enough people to take it.

Do you think freedom of expression activists will ever get over their squeamishness about pornography and make the connections between attacks on the NEA, Robert Mapplethorpe and *Bad Attitude*?

No. There are always fools who think they have the power to draw the line between what is acceptable and what isn't. I've been amazed at the length to which otherwise intelligent people will go to find some definition of "erotica" that they can defend and still be able to appear to be in favor of family values and other such buzz-word concepts by attacking "pornography." There is no difference between the pornography and erotica. The only real distinction is that erotica is for rich people and pornography is what the rest of us get.

Just look at the way that the material in *Flesh and the Word* is perceived. Most of it originated as down-right pornography, published in the smallest presses and the sleaziest magazines. Very few people would have defended it, no matter what its literary quality. Now it's between covers from a major publisher and before anyone could check it out, the *New York Times* ran an essay on it and other mainstream anthologies of "erotica." There's no difference in the work; the only difference is the presentation.

Who are the worst enemies of pornography today?

There are so many, and they come from so many directions. I think most publishers of gay magazines are at the greatest fault because they're so willing to accept such crap and they're so unwilling to support decent porn by supporting the authors. Consumers of porn are at fault too, because they'll accept so little.

I think the enemies list continues into other people or forces who block good writers from doing their work. I loathe critics who insist that porn, as such, must be bad writing, that it's something that authors should rise above. Anne Rice is a fine writer and her non-pornographic work gets respectable reviews and enormous sales. Yet, when she turns to porn, the literary world becomes very squeamish and starts to worry about what she's doing. She's doing what she was doing all along, she's writing the material that inflames her, that obsesses her, that she's under a compulsion to write. That's how it should be judged. Good writing is good writing and good sex writing that informs, arouses and entertains its readers has every right to serious consideration.

But of course we don't deal with sex or bodies in general in a very favorable light. If we could just cherish and nurture good fucking like we do eating, a friend just remarked, then Pat Califia's name would be as well known as Betty Crocker's.

For you as an editor, what makes some porn "good" and some porn "bad"?

Let's be honest. As an editor, stuff that turns me on is good and stuff that doesn't do a thing for me is bad. Good porn is stuff where I'm convinced the writer is as turned on by what he or she is putting down on paper as that same writer wants the reader to be. Leigh Rutledge, a writer who I admire, talks about the special pressures about writing porn: he has to do it fast so he can beat the need to jerk off. Good erotic writing conveys that tension. It usually has an air of obsession about it, as well. The writer is so *obsessed* by the topic or the goings on that it becomes a kind of crusade to be able to convince the reader that the action and plot are worth this mania.

I also think good porn can convey a sense of nostalgia. Sam Steward's best Phil Andros writing is often highly nostalgic. It's not so much about athletic sex as it is about the former lover who was so very good, at least through the colored-glasses of retrospection.

For all the gymnastics I've performed and written about, the most wonderful sexual experience of my life was a vanilla fuck with

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IN HEAVEN WITH SUSIE BRIGHT

So I was reading the galleys of Susie Bright's wonderful new book, *Susie Bright's Sexual Reality: A Virtual Sex World Reader*, which is out now in actual book form (from Cleis Press), and I thought, "That Susie...she's almost too sexy. And so hot, she gets her name above the title, just like Jodie Foster or somebody." Then, before I finished reading, I thought, "Hey, why don't I fax Susie a few intimate, personal, deep and revealing questions about herself and the world in general, or something?" I figured we could assemble her responses and call it *"Seven Minutes in Heaven with Susie Bright."* It turned out to be more like seven seconds, but hey, with Susie Bright it's always heaven. After that, I went back to reading the book. We've included an excerpt from it (see this very page) so you, can get a taste of Susie, too. Bon appetit.

—Adrianna Alty

Who is too sexy for your book?

You can never have too much genuine sexiness, as opposed to genuine arrogance, which seems to get mixed up a lot with sex appeal.

Who are you too sexy for?

Barbara Walters.

Should leather wrist restraints be padded for comfort?

For more than an occasional cheap thrill, yes. You need to be able to concentrate on your helplessness, not wrist burns.

Was Murphy Brown's pregnancy based on yours?

Who got knocked up first? Enuf said.

If you could do anything to Jesse Helms, what would it be?

Enrollment in Buttfucking School for the Dreadfully Deprived.

Who would you rather do something to?

I'd rather be done to and respond beautifully!

Is there anything you'd like to say to our readers at Pride time?

Orgasms are lovely this time of year.

SEX AND THE SINGLE PEST

By Susie Bright

I was in Europe when our newest Supreme Court Justice—then a mere nominee—was accused of sexual harassment. Professor Anita Hill, his aide for three years, testified to the Senate confirmation committee that her boss had continuously degraded her with his sexual come-ons and remarks. The Senators had in turn questioned both Hill's credibility and Thomas' culpability by getting Deep Inside every glistening detail of Hill's allegations.

I spoke to my friend Pat in Michigan from France the weekend of the most salacious testimony. "Can't we close the curtains?" she said, when I told her the hearings were top headlines all over the world. "I can't stand the whole universe watching these peckerwoods. How can anyone respect us?"

Respect? Well, international bullies command some sort of respect, however obsequious. Western Europe reported on the hearings with as straight a face as it could, while clearly insinuating that the United States is in the grips of a sexual psychosis. Yes indeed.

The BBC reported the news with as much stomach as it has for anything sexual. "In Britain, sex pests are not illegal," the anchor-man reminded viewers. "But *should* they be? Or is it a further infringement of the rights of the individual?"

"Sex pests"—I rather liked that nickname. It suggested that better than a law would be some sort of roach spray that you could squirt in the offender's loathsome face. "Pest Be Gone!" you'd shoot with a squirt, and Peeping Thomas would fizzle away like mildew in the shower.

My feminist fantasy was not included in the approach that the European news community took to the proceedings. A French government official said that this oddity, sexual harassment, would never happen in France because "our men are so seductive, there is no need to harass." Of course this sort of chauvinism is often just another part of the sex pest's M.O.—he thinks he's seductive; you think he's a roaring jerk.

Harassment doesn't reveal itself in a mere proposition—it's in the strings attached, in the refusal to take "no" for an answer. Take the sexual titillation out of it, and it stands as a bald issue of consent, of freedom from coercion. But this is exactly the point that sexual liberation turns on. Can you do what you please without oppressing anyone else? Feminists have been arguing that one for a couple of decades now, and moral righteousness has more often than not upstaged sexual education or tolerance.

Looking at the Thomas/Hill controversy as an issue of sexual freedom helped me distinguish between how much Americans care about harassment and how much we care about sexual taboos. The Senate committee found Thomas innocent of being a sex pest, but more importantly, they found him to be sexually innocent and therefore judicially sound.

Did he or didn't he hound her? There was no authentic debate on that count. Despite all the counter-witnesses and interrogation, it doesn't matter what Hill's ulterior motives may have been. Every woman who watched her testimony knows from personal experience exactly what she was talking about. American women have had it up to *here* with getting ahead through sexual humiliation. This won't be the end of it.

But I'm hardly the only one to comment on the double standard at work in the One Patriarchy Under God. What interests me more acutely is that in order for Thomas to be confirmed, he had to be cleared, not so much as a menace or a badger, but as a sexual, African American, full-grown man. He had to be declared sexually CLEAN, his whites whiter, his brights brighter. A man can be hired for any position in America despite being an arrogant pest; in fact, that might be considered an asset in some fields. But it is impossible to hold any legal job in the Untied (sic) States, let alone the grandest one of all, and be openly sexual. And this is why some people wisely say that whores hold the only honest jobs in the land.

If Anita Hill had testified that Thomas had approached her with a box of chocolates and a straight-forward proposition to go to bed—plus the insinuation that her job depended on accepting his offer—it would have been sexual harassment. But that story would NOT have blown the TV ratings out

of weekend sports. Though perhaps an adequate candidate for feminist debate, the hearings would not have galvanized the entire half-dead feminist leadership into raging tigers.

What made Hill's testimony tick like a bomb were the excruciating racial and sexual taboos it revealed for all to squirm and sweat over. My god, thirty years of liberal insistence that we stop judging black men by the size of their penises just fell apart on a Saturday afternoon. Pornographic fuck films? Isn't that something homo, rape-o, white perverts prefer? Isn't that what our Attorney General had dedicated this country's police forces to wiping out? Isn't that what Pee Wee did? Did anyone do a conspiracy cross-check to see if Thomas and Pee Wee saw the same flicks?

If someone had the honesty to truly look at sex in this country, he or she would find Clarence Thomas's tastes and comments utterly banal. Long Dong Silver is a name known to anyone who has had the slightest brush with dirty movies. I was only a teensy bit surprised when my coal delivery man in my small French village (population two hundred) told me about the Long Dong movie *he* had seen.

Really, the Coca-Cola episode was the topper. Any regular American Coke drinker who hasn't by the age of sixty found a pubic hair somewhere near or on his or her aluminum can has been living in a bubble. That's the way it is with hair. It floats around and sticks on things. Who was shocked by this story? Ten-year-olds? The public laughed their heads off, but the state insisted that the emperor still wore his clothes.

The Senate committee members, whichever side they were on, had neither a sense of humor nor a sense of history. To the genuine alarm of the women's movement, the committee also failed to see Thomas's behavior as a feminist issue—they saw it as a sleaze-bag issue. Or rather these men think that feminism is defending women against sleazebags.

Unfortunately, most of the feminist establishment also thinks that the crux of feminism is defending women against gross sex. Did feminist Catherine MacKinnon go on the tube to say that Clarence Thomas could have a ball reading skin mags on his own time, but not on Anita Hill's? No, she went for the classic one-two punch: Men are evil, and pornography (say this word as if you are strangling) makes them this way. Some call this approach radical feminism, but I call it nineteenth century protectionism. Take my Carrie Nation, please.

You know, if Clarence had got up and said—don't laugh!—"I really do love watching and talking about sex, and Long Dong is my cocksman hero—but I would never bring this up to embarrass or intimidate an employee," I would have believed him. Because to admit that he was sexual would have cost him the Supreme job forever. If he had only admitted to harassing Hill, they would have forgiven him. You know they would.

In the end, it was the Senate's disgust and shame about the whole sexiness of the issue that made them do the most typical thing of all: Deny it. The Senators dared you to look at Clarence Thomas and his unbelievable wife with their pained, pinched faces and try to imagine them having sex, talking about sex, or watching a blue movie. Hard to believe? Yes, and your parents never had sex either.

Remember the Meese Commission? It was a 1986 government-sponsored hyster-inquiry about the effects of pornography. They found many witnesses to sit in silhouette behind blinds and tearfully tell how reading *Penthouse* led to drugs, white slavery and bulimia. How incredible that they didn't have one token witness, not even with a bag over her head, who could say, "Gee, my husband and I watched *The Devil in Miss Jones* and we had hot sex and a great talk about the lunacy of Catholicism afterwards." The Commission could not even produce one average soul to file an affidavit saying that she had looked at plenty of skin magazines over the years, and nothing came of it...nothing at all. She moved to the suburbs and sold aluminum siding. One day she found a pubic hair in her Coke and wondered how it got there.

Admitting that one is sexual doesn't mean

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Nina Simone

FOR THE LOVE OF NINA

Celebrating the music and politics of a great performer on the eve of a rare Boston visit

By Walta Borawski

In the early 1970s in Poughkeepsie I asked poet Nikki Giovanni if it was true that she was working on a biography of Nina Simone. They had found, said Giovanni, they were not able to work together. She did not explain.

Attempting to categorize or explain Nina Simone is at least as awesome a task as trying to "work with her." She has always gone her own way, labelled by some as a jazz singer but herself rejecting that categorization. She writes in her autobiography, *I Put a Spell on You* (written with Stephen Cleary. Pantheon Books, N.Y., 1991. \$22 cloth, 181pp.):

Because of ("I Loves You, Porgy" [her first hit song], people often compared me to Billie Holiday, which I hated. That was just one song, and anybody who saw me perform could see we were entirely different. What made me mad was that it meant people couldn't get past the fact we were both black: if I had happened to be white nobody would have made the connection. And I didn't like to be put in a box with other singers because my musicianship was totally different, and in its own way superior. It was a racist thing; "If she's black she must be a jazz singer."

When one hears what Simone does with Rodgers and Hart's "Glad to be Unhappy" on the *Tribute to Billie Holiday* videotape, one is tempted to annoy her by calling her a jazz singer, the best jazz singer since Holiday. She fragments the melody and plays with the lyric as much as Betty Carter would. And though her piano playing has shown that her first choice in life was to be a classical pianist (witness her performance of Saint-Saens's "Mon Coeur s'Ouvre a ta voix" from *Samson et Dalila*), what does one call "Under the Lowest" and "Central Park Blues" if not jazz piano composition?

Of course if we can call her anything (beyond goddess; beyond genius) it is jazz/pop fusion artist of the highest order. Her creative flamboyance in performance has perhaps deterred some from acknowledging her musical greatness. She did a Central Park concert wearing only a long skirt and a feathered necklace; once she showed up in a hooded cape, sang two numbers in it, then threw the hood back during "I've Got Life" from *Hair!*, freeing a huge Afro; when her friend Jacques Brel died, she sang his "Ne Me Quitte Pas," crossing the stage at Avery Fisher holding one note. The 14-foot train of her white gown seemed dull by comparison, but was an integral part of the act, of the homage.

Her stage pronouncements have also

worked against common acceptance. "I heard my children needed to see me," she said in a New York concert after an absence of five years, "so I put on my roller skates and crossed town." Crossed the Atlantic Ocean is what she did, as this appearance was long into her expatriate period. (Now resident of the Netherlands, she has lived in London and Switzerland and, for a while, was the lover of Earl Barrow, Prime Minister of the Barbados, where she lived in state-owned homes.)

"Do you have your guns?" she once asked a mostly Black, mostly student-aged audience in the late 1960s. The cheers answered in the affirmative. "Then use them to shoot whitey." The cheering grew intense. "If you do, you are fools," said Simone; "if you do, they will get you."

She has frequently been drawn to extremes.

A while later I met Louis Farrakhan too...he sat in the living room and started talking about separatism...he talked for hours and I sat across from him....The night got longer, the gin took effect and I got a little distracted, especially by his feet, which were tiny. I'd never seen feet that small and I wondered if his mother had bound them when he was a baby like the Chinese used to do with their daughters. Minister Farrakhan talked on into the small hours and I sat staring at his shoes, sipping my gin and wondering what he'd say if I invited him upstairs. At last I couldn't stand it any longer and came out and asked him. It was more out of mischief than anything else, but he spoils the fun by turning me down; he just started talking politics again and I was too tired for that, so I sent him home.

Asking Farrakhan to her home in Mount Vernon, New York, with tricking in mind is hardly audacious for Simone, who rewrote George Harrison's "My Sweet Lord" as an attack on Christianity ("Who are you, Lord? You are a killer") and recorded it at Fort Dix during the height of the Vietnam War. And she got RCA Victor, her label at the time, to record and release it.

In musical decisions, her politics have never been ambiguous. She reinterpreted Kurt Weill and Bertold Brecht's "Pirate Jenny" as the hate-song of a young American Black person living in the South; she wrote "Young, Gifted and Black," which was partly responsible for the CORE citation of her work in the movement, her song being declared at the time the "National Anthem of Black America;" she not only wrote the furious "Mississippi Goddam" but rewrote it during the Reagan years to add the evils of

SEA CHANGE IN THE WORLD OF AIDS?

A decade into the epidemic, big questions bring few desperately needed answers

By Steve Rose

The time is here, in fact it's long overdue, for a major sea change in the world of AIDS. We simply cannot, in the words of George Bush as interpreted by *Saturday Night Live*'s Dana Carvey, "stay the course." Staying on course has taken us into despair and doublespeak, mistrust and betrayal.

Serious questions have always existed about the core pathogenesis, or development, of AIDS. But these have been repeatedly brushed aside as "fringe" ideas put forth by disreputable elements (from the *New York Native*, to *SPIN* magazine, to long-time AIDS survivor Michael Callen and his physician Joseph Sonnabend, among others). But logic demands that these voices be heard.

If we review the decade-plus of AIDS, it is obvious that AIDS as a medical crisis has been overshadowed by AIDS as a social and political one. Fear and discrimination have led to hasty decision-making. In the first years, uncertainty ruled. With the unveiling of an etiology theory (assignment of a cause) that made sense to many, this fear was quelled for some, fanned into even bigger flames by others.

Putting forth the idea of a single strain of one retrovirus as the culprit solved many problems, mostly in the areas of discrimination and prevention. But the focus on HIV, to the exclusion of everything else, caused a medical disaster with profound social and legal ramifications. We must take another look.

Even staunch adherents to the HIV etiology model of AIDS have had to admit that this approach has been a medical fiasco. Clearly, the biggest advances in care have been in the area of prevention (prophylaxis such as aerosolized pentamidine, which staves off pneumocystis pneumonia), and treatment of opportunistic infections, the deadly "secondary infections" that prey on those whose immune systems are weakened.

But the national research effort has focused on drugs to combat HIV—the "underlying infection"—to the exclusion of everything else. Even strong HIV proponents now agree that further immune system decline can be greatly curtailed if the body is not beset by repeated opportunistic infections.

Dramatic increases in longevity for those who have access to these "management strategies" are now changing the time frame of AIDS. But increased lifespan, strangely, has been met with hostility by many; the service provider structure was originally designed for a "uniformly" fatal disease that killed "swiftly." And much of this increased longevity has been attributed to nucleoside analog drugs like AZT. (In theory, nucleoside drugs stop a retrovirus from imprinting on cells. They are "cytotoxic," meaning they actually kill living cells, including bone marrow, which can lead to anemia and other side effects). Again, it is strange and ironic that even nucleoside proponents have met long-term survival with a considerable degree of hostility—this even in quarters that claim to be the vanguard of compassion and hope. AIDS has been presented to the public, the press and the government as an "inevitably terminal" illness that kills immediately. But with the curtailment of opportunistic infection deaths—even if via nucleosides—has come a shocking and painful double standard.

To lobby for desperately needed funds and to use a scare tactic in prevention work, AIDS has been constructed as a lethal killer. Government officials are now dumbfounded by lobbyists who plead for "long-term housing solutions" for people with AIDS. Disability payments for long-term survivors are reviewed suspiciously, as if the person who has outlived the original odds has committed some crime. Even within the context of applying the HIV theory and antiretroviral drugs as explanations for the improvements, this must change. Those who find the HIV model satisfying and even comforting in its single-minded, uncomplicated focus, must open up this model to include management strategies and opportunistic infection prevention...and increased longevity.

Those who continue to favor the HIV model must also face another challenge: there are many strains of HIV. But there has been little explanation of these mutated strains, they are acknowledged half-heartedly and without any clarity. Serious, life-and-death questions exist about variant strains, especially within the context of believing that retroviruses are deadly (which is not a unanimous scientific belief). Does the current Elisa/Western Blot testing regimen show antibodies to all of the strains or just HIV-1? Are some strains non-pathogenic? Is the blood supply safe? Should testing for HIV-2, the acknowledged variant strain, be used for blood and people? Obviously, the concept of multiple strains of HIV must be faced and factored into the equation.

The issue of multiple strains leads to the serious matter of core pathogenesis. Without even considering the scandalous behind-the-scenes machinations that led to the "discovery" of HIV (which most proponents of the HIV-as-single-cause theory seem willing to ignore), it's interesting to note that both so-called co-discoverers of HIV, Luc Montagnier of France and Robert Gallo of the U.S., have repeatedly stated that there are indeed mutant strains and that not all of these are pathogenic. (A worker at the Mass. State Lab who spoke to me on the condition of anonymity confirmed the presence of HIV-2 in the state. Although this would seem to be a major development, it has caused little alarm.)

Some have hypothesized that, if this is a viral epidemic, the natural course of mutation will proceed to select out the deadlier strains, since these kill themselves by killing their hosts. This is what many hypothesize took place during the influenza epidemic of World War I. Montagnier and Gallo have also repeatedly pleaded with the medical community, the press and the government to hear them about cofactors. Both have said that HIV requires a cofactor to become pathogenic. Montaignier has posited a mycoplasma as a possible cofactor; Gallo has put forth a virus from the herpes family, HHV-6. Even adherents to the HIV etiology model must face this openly and squarely: cofactors are part of the core pathogenesis of AIDS and must be explored, understood and treated.

If HIV alone is not responsible for AIDS at its core, research must focus on what the cofactor/s is/are. This is unlikely to happen given that research grant money favors large, elite academic institutions working on major market drugs and that traditionally focus on the fields of genetics and protein biochemistry. Retrovirology, which has been a major focus in cancer research for years, fits perfectly under this umbrella. Plainly put, research on anything other than HIV has little, if any, chance of receiving funding.

Ultimately, those who feel that retroviruses like HIV may play only incidental roles, or that they are not involved at all, must be given a fair opportunity to put forth these views. A credible body of knowledge exists on retrovirology that overwhelmingly favors the view that HIV is not the cause of AIDS. Retrovirologist Peter Duesberg of the University of California/Berkeley has long argued that in all of his years of cancer research he has never seen a retrovirus directly kill a cell. The widespread admission of this (in publications like *AIDS Treatment News*, *PWA Coalition Newsline* and the prestigious British journal *Nature*), has given hope to alternative etiology theorists. But, in general, such information has been relentlessly cast aside.

Why would credible scientists and physicians continue to suffer these vituperations if they did not believe they had compelling reasons to do so? Recent research has uncovered evidence that there may be an autoimmune component to AIDS. This means that the mystery of t-cell death, which most people understand to be the crux of AIDS pathogenesis, could be caused by the body attacking itself. Canadian researchers Kion and Hoffmann supported this theory when they recently disclosed an experiment in which lab animals injected with non-HIV infected blood cells from other animal subjects of the same species developed antibodies to the

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HIPHOPRISY BEATS OUT HOMOPHOBIA

GCN talks to a radical rap group that puts progressive politics up front

By Mary Dowd

Sometimes it seems that the whole concept of the swing and beat of hip-hop culture goes hand-in-hand with obsessive male idolization and homophobia. The result is a constant moralizing about obscenity and censorship that somehow sells records for the artists involved. Eventually the controversy becomes a view of Black culture incorporating misogyny, homophobia and racism that is treated as fact rather than fallacy.

But maybe these tired cliches about rap are about to change with the help of the Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy, a radical rap group emerging out of the San Francisco Bay area. The group has just released its debut album *Hypocrisy is the Greatest Luxury* on Island Records. Core members Michael Franti and Rono Tse (formerly of the Beat Nigs) are vying to change the pulp stereotypes in rap music.

Unlike other rappers, the strapping six-foot-six Franti and his partner Tse are not aiming to conquer the hip-hop mainstream or focus solely on the maligned images of Black men. Franti observed: "I am not opposed to N.W.A as artists. I am against misogyny and I am against homophobia. I am against some of the things that are standard to rap. What particularly bothers me is that they [N.W.A] say that the words don't have any effect on them. Then some of the members of the group begin beating up women publicly. It is perpetuating the myth that women are bitches and whores. I can't understand the hypocrisy that Black men could say that kind of stuff about women. They are against the oppression of Black men and they do it to Black women. My record company says the same thing [N.W.A says], 'The public buys it.'"

Both Franti and Tse are conscious of how easy it is to preach political correctness, but how much more difficult it is to put those same ideas into practice. Franti explained: "In the Beat Nigs, we found that a lot of things that the band were talking about weren't put into effect in our personal lives. The treatment of other people was not good. We were talking about wanting the world to be a better place but couldn't make a decent relationship."

Unsurprisingly, the intent of the Disposable Heroes and their new single, "Language of Violence," is to educate rather than to intimidate. The record uses a high school vignette to illustrate how homophobia can become ingrained in cultural attitudes. And, demonstrating their commitment to the cause, the Heroes have joined forces in a guerilla-style movement with Community Against Violence (a Bay Area grassroots organization committed to ending gay bashing) along with such luminaries as Marlon Riggs, the Black gay filmmaker whose *Tongues Untied* was pirated by Pat Buchanan in his presidential campaign.

Even with this frontal assault on homophobia, Franti is not without a sense of frustra-

tion and urgency in his music. The group's radical philosophy stems directly from Tse's struggle to reconcile his American culture with his parents' Hong Kong origins and from Franti's struggle with his own background. Franti asserted: "Racism is a disease like alcoholism. First of all, I define racism as a way people have power over other people. The problem with young Black men is that they feel that all of the problems of a racist society fall on them. I don't feel that I am some kind of aberration or have something lacking. I feel that I am a human being. The conditions under which I was given up for adoption were racist. My mother is white, my father is Black. My father wasn't going to marry my mother. My grandfather was a straight-up racist. I am a product of an interracial relationship and I am also a product of racism as it exists today."

Indeed, Franti feels that some of the new generation of Black films such as *Boyz in the Hood* and *Jungle Fever* stigmatize and reinforce homophobia and racism. "I can't say that I was happy about them," he said. "I was happy that Black men had the opportunity to express themselves. I felt that *Jungle Fever* was about a Black man's fascination with the sexuality of white women and the fallacies that the media has placed on this. The fact that white and black people could not have a relationship together which is caring reinforces separatism. I think we live in a society which is a multicultural society and we should encourage people of different races and cultures to live together."

Franti understands that the prospects for most Black youth making it in the music business are "equivalent to becoming a brain surgeon." As a result, Franti and his cohorts don't have too much time for the traditional rap stereotypes of flash and glitter accompanied by derogatory images of women or the "pull yourself up by the bootstraps" mentality of Clarence Thomas and others.

"When you look at the odds that the average Black man has to be successful, they are miniscule. There is a whole psychology that you can have a lot of people leave the ghetto, when the reality is that they leave by either going into sports or through entertainment or drugs. The way out is for people to notice what is happening to them."

The Disposable Heroes are also different from other rappers in that they don't simply sample rock classics beneath their contemporary rhymes. Unlike most rappers, they play instruments and their musical talents hold their own beside the powerful lyrics. "I want to address what I have seen in my own life, being someone who is concerned with music and politics," said Franti. The Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy have no illusions about political activism in the music industry. Indeed, Franti stated: "It is hard to try working in an industry that doesn't have a conscience." But by using what's on his mind, Franti and the Heroes avoid the inevitable diatribes and revolutionize a genre that badly needs to be reinvented. □

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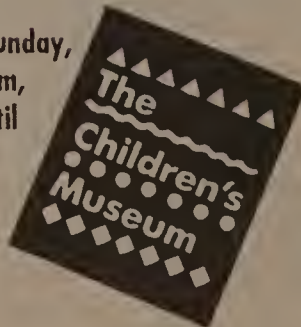
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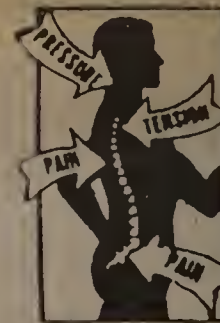


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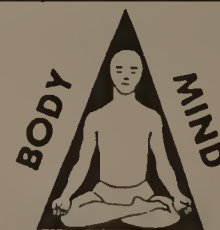
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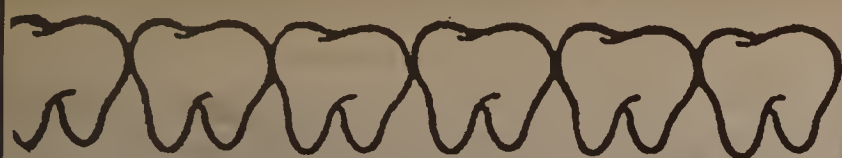
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Michael Bronski

Vaid

Continued from page 8

see as regressive social stands. Certainly we shouldn't support gay candidates who are not pro-choice.

Vaid: I agree with that. That is an absolute line. The right to abortion is completely tied to our rights as gay people to use our bodies as we like. Control of our reproductive and sexual lives is a central tenet of gay liberation. If we are opposed to sodomy laws we have to support the right of a woman to have control over her own body. What we are challenging is the power of the state to say what we can do with our bodies.

Bronski: Yet I read a column by either Paul Varnell or Cliff O'Neill saying that whatever the legitimacy of the pro-choice movement, it has no place in the gay rights movement.

Vaid: I know. This feels like *deja vu*. These arguments were in the pages of *GCN* in 1977. I think that people who make those arguments simply don't understand, or are willing to give the state more power than I am willing to give it. I feel that there are some people in the community who are more trusting of the state and its power than I am.

Bronski: That's because they partake of that power. Or they want to.

Vaid: And really the truth is that the gay power that we have is an illusion. Even though I feel like I'm a hopeless optimist and keep pointing out how much things have changed and how much change is happening today, I still feel that we have very little power in this society and we are very marginal. I feel that every one of our organizations — be it the Community Center, Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, AIDS Action Committee — is a marginal institution that could be gone in a minute. And I see all this in-fighting as fighting for crumbs. Everybody is so invested and so territorial about their own little piece of turf.

Bronski: But certainly that turf is both actual and metaphorical. There are real concrete problems that arise from this division. Like in matters of voting: do you vote for a gay candidate who is anti-choice? Or one who is a race-baiter? Or one who is a fiscal conservative who would not fund AIDS programs? Or, even more complicated, someone who would fund AIDS programs with money taken from other social services that would hurt battered women or the homeless? These are real questions for people who consider themselves gay social progressives or gay liberationists.

Vaid: What are the questions? If the question is, "How should we choose?" then my answer is, "As differently as we are." If the question is, "What do we do with the fact that we have no appealing choices?" my answer is, "Run for office, run amok, but don't run away." If the question is, "What is the place of lesbian and gay conservatives in the movement?" my answer is, "Working alongside radicals; working on what we agree with and disagreeing with the rest." It's hard. I think we have to be guided by principles and some of the principles are that if we are calling ourselves gay liberationists...

Bronski: Which not everybody does.

Vaid: ...no, that's true.

Bronski: In fact, I'd argue that gay liberationists (or those who might call themselves gay nationalists today; "gay liberationist" seems like such an old-fashioned term these days) are a minority within the broader movement and certainly within the community.

Vaid: We have to avoid our movement becoming collapsed into electoral politics. I think that was the pitfall that the women's movement and civil rights movement fell into. Electoral politics poses a mine field for us as a movement. What we have to avoid is, quite frankly, becoming assimilated into a system that will on its own terms, and never give us power. I fear that in playing the electoral political game we have to look carefully at the lessons that we can learn from other groups.

Bronski: Yet people play it all the time. Boston alone has three major gay political organizations that deal with electoral issues.

Vaid: That's what I mean about it being a mine field. Part of the mine field is being realistic about what putting a gay person in office is going to give you. That person is never going to be able to deliver an entire agenda to a whole community. But it is a step forward to have an openly gay city councillor. It's a huge step.

Bronski: But what happens if that person isn't a progressive? Or even a traditional liberal? We had someone running for State Rep in Boston who feels perfectly fine in attacking Queer Nation when they protested the Catholic Church's anti-gay and AIDS education policies. This was someone who totally supports Bush's and the state's fiscal conservatism, which affects a whole range of social service policies for the HIV community, not to mention people of color, children and the homeless.

Vaid: Listen, I'm not saying that every gay politician is a good guy. People need to be held accountable. I'm held accountable for my every statement all the time by my board, colleagues in the movement, the gay press, the straight press. Why are we so afraid to challenge other people? And challenge in a way that does not attack their humanity but in a way that says, "I think you are wrong?"

Bronski: But they are on the wrong track. People get elected precisely because they play to the worst popular prejudice. That's what people who want to have power within the system *do* to get elected.

Vaid: I'm not saying there aren't tensions. But it is so new for openly gay people to have any political power — being elected and being appointed to political office — it has happened in the last 15 years, at the most. We have not yet found a way to work out differences among ourselves. Except in letters to the editor and such things and *that* drives me crazy. I hear about problems from all over the country — organization X cannot work with organization Y — and I make a few phone calls and discover that these people have not even spoken to one another.

I think we have to be more forgiving of one another. Forgiveness is actually a very radical thing. To actually allow other people to make mistakes. I certainly have. You have to engage in the spirit of helping them to change and not in the spirit of going after their throat. Sometimes I think that our community just likes to sit on the sidelines wait-

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Nina

Continued from page 11

Reagan and Margaret Thatcher to the evils of Southern bigots who'd kill children in church.

Writes Simone:

When you mention Black Power, people automatically think of the Black Panthers, but although the Panthers evolved out of these ideas, they were only part of the overall philosophy. A good part, though; I thanked God for them, because they showed young blacks who thought the only means of protest was passive non-violence that there was another way, that they didn't have to take all the mental and physical cruelty inflicted on them by whites.

Her outspokenness kept her in the eye of surveillance; during her troubles with the IRS (they alleged she owed \$34,000 in back taxes) she gave a concert in New York, asking the audience how much they had paid to see her. "\$15" was the answer at the time. "Well, the sheriff is in the box office," she said.

Her onstage raps have often been dramatic (and scary to some white fans; a Black friend once suggested I not go to a Simone concert in Albany). The Simone anger was always an intelligent reaction to social wrongs, however. It just sounded crazy, because the opinions were so strong (like when she refused to record "Bridge Over Troubled Water" because she said Paul Simon had stolen it from spirituals, then referred to Bob Dylan as the closest thing to a saint that people in white America had come). Here in the autobiography these opinions are more clearly expressed.

For black musicians the result of the sixties was exile to dance music and the old black ghettos of jazz and blues. The only black artists that record companies liked were those who crossed over by playing music for the white mass market, music which ran scared of its own colour. What had happened to great black record labels like Motown, Stax and Atlantic? Where was James Brown in the mass market? Where was Aretha Franklin? Where was Nina Simone? Nina Simone was walking away from an industry with no place for her, an industry which had been happy to sell millions of her records through the sixties and then turned around and said they didn't think people wanted to listen to those kinds of records anymore.

Her performance career started as a straight pianist in the Midland Bar in Manhattan. After her debut the owner asked why she had not sung. "I'm only a pianist," she answered. The owner said, "Well tomorrow night you're either a singer or you're out of a job."

So the next night I sang as well. It wasn't hard to fit it to the improvisation because I used my voice as a third layer, complementing the other two layers, my right and left hands. When I got to the part where I used elements of popular songs I would simply sing the repeating verses, changing the order of the words. It was fun. Harry [the bar owner] liked it too, so everybody was happy.

What she casually refers to here is her almost bizarre discipline as a musician: her fingers can play Bach while her mouth is singing "Mighty Lak a Rose" or her inspired medley of "Good King Wenceslas" with Rodgers and Hart's "Little Girl Blue." "I made up the arrangement [of those two songs] one night at the Midtown."

After Town Hall, critics started to talk about what sort of music I was playing and tried to find a neat slot to file it away in. It was difficult for them because I was playing popular songs in a classical style with a classical piano technique influenced by cocktail jazz. On top of that I included spirituals and children's songs in my performances, and those sorts of songs were automatically identified with the folk movement... They finally ended up describing me as a "jazz-and-something-else singer." To me "jazz" meant a way of thinking, a way of being, and the black man in America was jazz in everything he did—in the way he walked, talked, thought and acted. Jazz music was just another aspect of the whole thing, so in that sense because I was black I was a jazz singer, but in every other way I most definitely wasn't.

One time she explained her long absence from the New York stage by saying, "I have been on direct communication with God. I have gone back to talk with my ancestors. Paul Robeson told me to sing this song." All of us white liberals held our breath, wondering what potent new "Mississippi Goddam" or "Four Women" (her riveting song about four generations of American Black women of various skin tones, appropriated by Sandra Bernhard in her concert movie *Without You, I'm Nothing*) she had penned this time, but Simone stood on the edge of the stage and quietly sang "Black is the Color."

On 15 January 1965—a couple of months before Selma—I gave a concert at Carnegie Hall; the first half of the concert I performed partly solo and partly with my musicians, the second half with a full symphony orchestra. It was the sort of concert I would have killed for when I was Eunice Waymon (her given name), and even as Nina Simone it gave me enormous pleasure.... But even my Carnegie Hall debut couldn't pass undisturbed by the reality of our struggle. Two days before the concert I was rehearsing with the orchestra when news came through that Brother Malcolm X had been shot to death on a Harlem platform.... Malcolm's assassination pushed my thoughts faster down the track they were already on, that violence was going to be an inevitable part of the struggle and if we didn't understand that fact then—like I said in "Mississippi Goddam"—we'd die like flies.... The first thing I saw in the morning when I woke up was my black face in the bathroom mirror and that fixed what I felt about myself for the rest of the day—that I was a black-skinned woman in a country where you could be killed because of that one fact.

Simone and Bill Cosby were touring together when Martin Luther King was killed. "On stage I was lost completely but my subconscious got on with the show and no one noticed the difference except my musicians and Andy [Stroud, the ex-cop who was for many years her husband and manager], who stood anxiously in the wings wondering if I was about to faint or say something really crazy. Every now and then my music was altered by these moods—once I found myself playing the *Lone Ranger* theme music, very softly and quietly—but it was mostly my perceptions, how I saw the world." Through the years her *Weltanschauung* has been exhilarating and exasperating to those of us who follow her. I have never been more musically/emotionally moved than I was on the two occasions I heard Simone's reworking of Gilbert O'Sullivan's "Alone Again, Naturally," shooting out his vapid lyrics and adding a graphic account of her father's death from cancer ("and when he passed away/I drank and smoked all day.") In the summer of 1973, after three hours of brilliant singing and piano playing, she and her black jersey full-skirted gown approached the piano once more, where she sat down and actually whispered the words of "I Will" from The Beatles's White Album. As Frank O'Hara wrote in his poem "The Day Lady Died" (about Holiday): "and everyone and I stopped breathing."

Conversely, there was a no-show concert at Vassar; the summer concert she was doing with the Brooklyn Boys Choir and cancelled at the last minute because she could no longer work or even be in America (for personal/political, not legal, reasons), the Boston Symphony Hall concert when she gave us her back and a very short set of songs (including an obsessed version of "Close Encounters of the Third Kind"; "I am the fourth kind," she said, with a laugh).

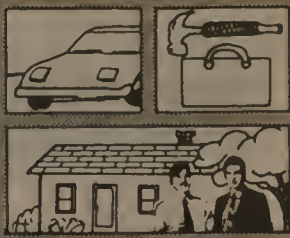
For a long-time observer/appreciator of her remarkable gift, it is nice to have the story from her. It is surprisingly laid back in approach, quite a traditional well-written autobiography, not like the brilliant snatches of thought and reverie that have appeared too infrequently: the liner notes for her brilliant *Here Comes the Sun* album (mentioned in Adrienne Rich's *Twenty-one Love Poems*); the remarks she made in *The Superstars in their Own Words*.

At age 11 she gives a recital at the town hall in Tryon, North Carolina, her home town.

I sat at the piano with my trained elegance while a white man introduced me, and when I looked up my parents, who were dressed in their best, were being thrown out of their front row seats in favour of a white family I had never seen before. And Daddy and Momma were allowing themselves to be moved. Nobody else said anything, but I wasn't going to see them treated like that and stood up in my starched dress and said if anyone expected to hear me play then they'd better make sure that my family was sitting right there in the front row where I could see them, and to hell with poise and elegance. So they moved them back. But my parents were embarrassed and I saw some of the white folks laughing at me. All of a sudden it seemed a different world, and nothing was easy any more. I really had thought that all white people were like Miz Mazzy and Mrs. Miller [her benefactors in Tryon], all kind and elegant, all polite. I had no reason to think otherwise: they were the only white people I had ever talked to for any length of time.... The day after the recital I walked around feeling as if I had been flayed and every

Continued on page 23

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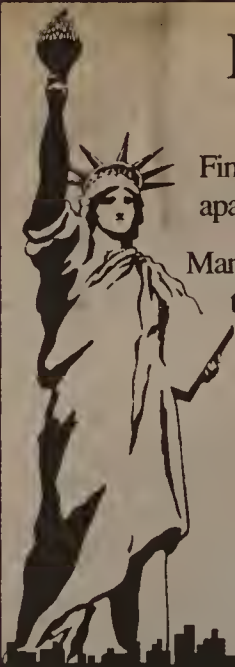
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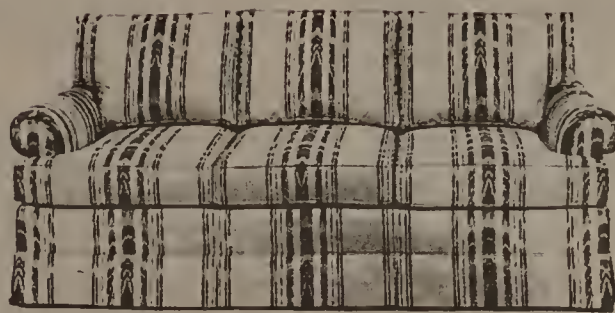
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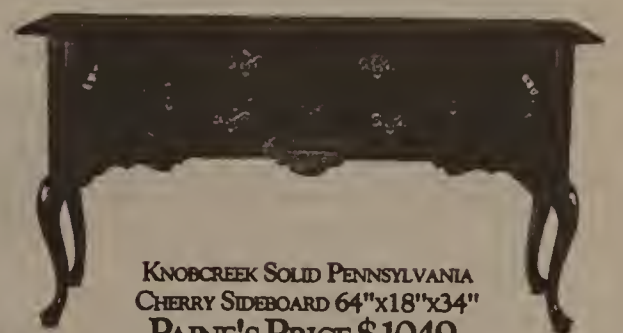
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Vaid
Continued from page 13
ing for people to fail, and I hate that. I just
hate that mentality.

Bronski: I agree that we all need a lot more
practice in learning how to give and take
constructive criticism. But I think that a lot
of what we are talking about is predicated on
the fact that there is a "gay community" that
has shared goals. And I'm not sure that is the
case at all.

Vaid: Right. That's right.

Bronski: But that gets back to my original
question about Paul Varnell's attacking you
for targeting capitalism (which is probably
better called "economic justice"; "capital-
ism" is too much of a red-baiting buzz word)
as a problem for some gay men and lesbians
and the criticism of the NGLTF's board
statement against the war. What do you do
with gay spokespeople or gay politicians
who have terrible gender politics, horrible
politics around reproductive rights and who
take divisive and destructive stands about
race or economics?

Vaid: What you do is talk to them. Invite them to community forums where they are asked to explain their positions. You demand accountability.

Bronski: Sure. That's easy to say. But I think there are two problems here. The first is — and you know this is true because it has happened to you — we are living in a political climate that is so conservative, so charged, that when someone who has socially progressive politics says, "What about racism?" or "What about economic justice for poor people?" they immediately get labeled "P.C." or red-baited (as you were by Paul Varnell). Or it is implied that they are self-hating because they don't put the problems of gay people (as if some gay people aren't Black or poor or in unions or on food stamps) first. This happens to me all the time. It happens to *GCN constantly*. I'm sure it happens to you.

The fact of the matter is that in this quick-fix political culture we live in, electoral and legislative politics are *always* privileged over grassroots or other politics that would encourage social change. If one-third of the time and energy that was spent in Massachusetts for 17 years in trying to pass a gay and lesbian rights bill was spent on honest internal discussions of racism and issues of economic justice faced by our movement, we would all be better off.

The second problem is that the electoral system is very corrupt, inexact, and imperfect and it does not have a finely tuned system of checks and balances. What do you do when there is a part of the movement that thinks it's great to have someone who is a gay rights advocate and who is very bad on other issues — and they don't *care* about those other issues? They couldn't care less about social services, or job training for inner city youth, or abortion. All they want is someone who is "good" on gay rights.

Here in Massachusetts we have a governor who is good on gay rights and good on abortion, yet he has disastrous policies on social services and other issues. Yet many, many gay and lesbian movement people (even people who consider themselves liberal movement leaders), think he is doing a good job. And these aren't just gay Republicans but gay Democrats as well, some of whom he has rewarded with jobs.

Vaid: What we are talking about here is party loyalty and that's a problem. Political parties expect some sort of loyalty; you give and you get. I have the luxury of working at NGLTF outside of the party system — we work with people. We don't have to follow those difficult party lines.

Bronski: This feels like an evasion to me. I guess I want to know how you think that movement people can make decisions that are socially responsible? What are the basic principles at stake here? Is it better to elect someone who is going to vote in a pro-gay bill even if he is going to cut social welfare money, or vote against a pro-choice bill? What are the non-negotiable principles at stake here?

Vaid: The principles...well, pro-choice, of course...and there is a whole other list of things. Freedom from anti-gay violence, for instance. But I think, most importantly, that we as an electorate should demand that those people who are running as openly gay and lesbian candidates and actively seek the support of the community will actively commit to being leaders on our behalf.

Bronski: But that gets back to the problem.

Who is that "our"? Who do you mean? What about for other constituents, and not even in "separate communities," but in our own community? Why would a lesbian mother who has a part-time job and not a lot of money think that some representative — Democrat or Republican — is going to represent her if he or she is going to vote for a gay rights bill and not increase the social services she needs to feed or care for her children? Or what about a gay working person who is in a union while the present government and legislative trend is decidedly *anti-union*?

It's not simply a matter of making people accountable. It's much more complex than that. I guess what I'm interested in is looking at gender, race and economic factors and seeing how they interlock with all of this. I've been involved with gay politics for 22 years, since right after Stonewall, and I think that if there is one thing that I've learned, it is that the very notion of a "gay community" — especially as assumed under a single issue gay rights agenda — is completely fallacious and totally crackpot.

Vaid: But you see, we can say that today, and we wouldn't have said that 22 years ago. Or even 10 years ago. And it's because we have created a space for gay and lesbian people to live and flourish.

Bronski: I see what you're saying and I think it's partially correct and partially totally wrong. Part of why GAA broke off from GLF 22 years ago is that they were interested in a single-issue agenda, and not a multi-faceted, more comprehensive, socially progressive one. The center would just not hold. Even back then we had endless fights about the differing and conflicting needs of other constituencies, saying that a gay rights agenda was just not enough.

Perhaps our definition of a community just isn't broad enough. I suspect that when a white middle-class lesbian or gay person says "We need a gay rights bill to protect us," chances are that they are not thinking about the special needs of a gay person who is Black, or unemployed, or in a union, or on welfare, or dependent on state services for food or whatever.

Vaid: I agree. But my take on it is that what we need is a united agenda.

Bronski: And who decides it? How is it agreed upon?

Vaid: It doesn't *matter* who decides it. It is there. In any corner of the country you go to, there are people who will agree about certain things that they want to see for lesbians and gay men. Whether you go into communities of color or not.

Bronski: I'm already dubious about this.

Vaid: Let me articulate what these are. Everyone would agree that we need laws that ban discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodation, because of sexual orientation.

Everybody agrees on getting rid of sodomy laws and laws that criminalize our sexual orientations.

Everybody agrees that we have to do something about violence against lesbians and gay men, and that may include law enforcement training, public education — a direct response to violence.

Everybody agrees that we want *some* kind of recognition of our relationships — the debate on whether that is domestic partnership or marriage is a fine point, but the premise is that we shouldn't be illegal.

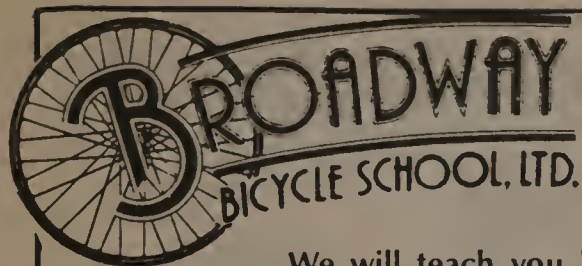
And everybody agrees that the government is fucking us over on AIDS and that we have a lot more to demand from the government in terms of research and education. This includes decent health care for everyone.

And I think that every part of the lesbian and gay community would say that the movement — whatever it is, wherever it is — ought to be working for a society in which lesbians and gay men can live freely, whoever and wherever we are.

That's a lot of specific issues around which people agree. Now what we don't agree on is what else gets added to that mix. For a lesbian of color, economic issues or health care issues might be number one. A lesbian or gay business person might have another set of issues they would want the gay movement to take up.

Bronski: I think it's important that this isn't theoretical stuff. We can call it prioritizing, but health care, food stamps and job training are all necessities. The real question is what happens at the point that these priorities conflict?

Vaid: What I'm trying to do here is to
Continued on page 18



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Vaid

Continued from page 16

reframe the question. You could go crazy — people *have* gone crazy — trying to look at every single divergent point and missing the whole picture. What I'm trying to look at here is unity — what do we all have in common and how can we get that?

Sometimes I think that we are all fighting with one another as though we have won. And we haven't won. We haven't even come close. And we are wasting time and energy by fighting with one another.

Bronski: I see what you're saying. You're talking about organizing on both a philosophical and a pragmatic level.

Vaid: It's more pragmatic than philosophical.

Bronski: That's fine. But how do you entice a lesbian mother with three kids who has all of these other concerns — real pressing everyday concerns — to agree with these six points? Why should she be interested?

Vaid: Right. I think that the connection between individual gay and lesbian lives and the specific goals of the movement are what is not being articulated by the movement. What I would say to the woman with three kids is, "Hey, what we are essentially fighting for is national health care of some kind, which makes it possible for working people and low-income people and even middle-class people to have decent health care because they can get medical insurance they can afford." And that's an issue we can all get behind. We also are fighting against racism — that's what I think, that's what my organization thinks — that's not everybody in the gay movement.

Bronski: No. And many people in the gay and lesbian movement don't particularly care about health care because they have access to health care and a national health care program is only going to cost them money.

Vaid: Then those are the people who are going to try and persuade the Task Force *not* to have this on their agenda, the people who aren't going to join the Task Force. But there is no question in my mind that the AIDS epidemic has shown us that we have to have a national health plan to replace the current health care system.

Bronski: I think it's great that the Task Force has these six agenda points of unity. I just don't think that we can presume that the whole movement — whatever that means — also shares them. I don't think that everyone would agree that "our" (whoever that means) sexualities should be decriminalized when some of "our" sexualities include boy love, s/m and transvestism — all of which are illegal in some states and intensely disliked by lots of people, including lesbian and gay people.

I also don't think that we could all ever agree on "recognition for our relationships" — the very idea of gay marriage is repugnant to some people and a lot of people have real problems with the concept of domestic partnership in so far as it privileges couples in matters like insurance and health benefits. I think that the elevation of the "couple" as a special social status is very dangerous in that it disenfranchises single people.

I could probably go down the rest of the list too, but you see my point. I agree that we could all probably agree on some bland statements — as long as we didn't have to deal with the actual details or the harsh reality of the matters at hand — but I don't see the point in this; it would essentially be pap.

Vaid: Listen. We all have to do the work that we decide to do. I'm not saying that these six points are going to solve everything but they are a beginning to trying to form a unified vision that a lot of people — not everyone — but a lot of people can get behind. All I can do is speak for the Task Force; that's where I work. But if we are ever going to move on and get anything done we have to begin somewhere. Does that sound overly optimistic?

Bronski: No. It sounds pragmatic. Maybe I'm overly pessimistic. It's just that recently it feels as though the lesbian and gay movement — whatever that is — is moving further and further away from being part of a larger movement, one that would be an instrument for real social change for everyone. That's the model that I've worked with for more than two decades and I'm not about to let go of it.

Vaid: I don't think you do. I don't think that I do. Change happens on all different levels and the gay rights movement and the gay lib-

eration movement are going to keep on happening. As are all kinds of other progressive movements. The point, I guess, is to keep on fighting and keep on organizing.

Bronski: Is that optimism or pragmatism?

Vaid: You decide.

Pest

Continued from page 10

making a nuisance out of oneself. It doesn't mean being a pig. There is actually a way to acknowledge one's sexuality without getting in anybody else's face about it.

Of course, for many Americans, to know others are sexual *is* to be offended. This is exactly what the homophobes have cried about for ages: they don't want to know you're gay on the job, because it's blatant, it's obnoxious.

What about women in blue collar jobs who complain that the guys have cheesecake pictures adorning their lockers? Dear Abby recently ran a fabulous go-round about this in the daily paper. A woman worker might call pin-ups a perfect example of sexual harassment, but it could also be true that she's perfectly embarrassed by knowing, up front, that her co-workers think about women in a sexual manner. It might make her feel threatened or resentful. Or she might blow their minds and put up her own beefcake. They'll be more spooked by her sexuality than she is by theirs.

What's good for the gander is a whole 'nother world for the goose. It's typical for men to display their sexual interests, and it's typical for women to feel ostracized and objectified by their display. But neither is "natural" or particularly honest. Do most men hang pictures of what really turns them on, of their most personal fantasies? Half of them tolerate the babe in the calendar because of the Harley pictured underneath her. Do women look at those pictures and think about what they mean to that man or do they compare themselves to Miss Tool and Die and want to die themselves? The best response in Dear Abby was from the gal who put up her own female soft-core poster and enjoyed the hell out of herself, checking out which co-workers were admiring and which were homophobic or appalled.

She had a lot of nerve. Whether she knows or not, she not only showed her sexual preference, but she showed the men she was checking out theirs. All the tits were on the wall.

For women, straight or gay, to acknowledge their sexuality on the job, it seen as "asking for it." For Anita Hill and others like her, just being the *object*, not the instigator, of sexual indiscretion, made her wonder if she was doing something wrong.

Women are constantly reacting to men's perception of our desirability and our sexual potential, yet we rarely get there first. If we declare our sexuality up front, not as pests, but as full-blooded adult women, we not only risk being excluded from the upwardly mobile ladder path that Clarence Thomas so studiously followed, but we risk losing what little security we've already attained.

A man who admits his lust is seen as a foolish, unambitious stud, but a lusty woman is a fallen woman, a whore. Sexual women lose the protection of the double standard. But is it so awful to lose our end of a bad bargain? Where do fallen whores go anyway? I'd like to see one go straight to the top, the Supreme Court bench. We gotta have someone we can trust.

c 1992 Susie Bright

"Sex and The Pest" is excerpted with permission from Susie Bright's Sexual Reality: A Virtual Sex World Reader, published by Cleis Press and available at fine bookstores everywhere. Individuals may order the book direct from Cleis Press by calling (412) 937-1555 or sending \$9.95 (or \$24.95 for cloth) plus \$1.50 p/h. to Cleis Press, P.O. Box 8933, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15221. Penn. residents please add 6 percent sales tax.

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Pomo Afro Homos in Dark Fruit Photo: Jill Posner



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Thursday,
July 2 9:15-12 midnight

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**OPENING NIGHT
SCREENINGS**
at Museum of
Fine Arts, Boston
Thursday, July 2 6:00 PM

SWOON
Boston Premiere
Directed by Tom Kalin, 1992,
USA, 87 minutes

Appearing in Person:
Director **TOM KALIN**

RESONANCE
Directed by Stephen Cummins,
1991, USA, 2 minutes

The infamous Leopold-Loeb murder case has been the inspiration for two previous screen versions — Alfred Hitchcock's **Rope** and Richard Fliescher's **Compulsion** — but these movies, unlike **Swoon**, avoided the (homo)sexual elements in the drama. "Tom Kalin's stunning monochrome melodrama — part archival footage, part period drama, part experimental narrative — puts the homosexuality back into the homicide." — Sixth London Lesbian & Gay Festival Starting with gay bashing, **Resonance** lyrically explores the phenomena of domination and violence within relationships, while "unraveling the social inscriptions of power and meaning on the body through gestures, dance, and interior monologues" —Kay Armatage, Festival of Festival Catalogue and

Thursday, July 2 8:15 PM

**ORANGES ARE NOT THE
ONLY FRUIT**
Directed by Beeban Kidron,
1989, Great Britain, 145 minutes

Set in working-class England, this made-for-television film from the director of **Antonia and Jane** has been acclaimed internationally as one of the finest depictions of the lesbian experience.



From *Back yard Movie* directed by Bruce Weber

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, July 3 6:00 PM
MFA
Shorts: Women Loving Women Boston Premieres
A 90-minute program of short films and video exploring the problems, effects and triumphs of depicting lesbian sexuality. Included are **The Match That Started My Fire** by Cathy Cook (1990), an unconventional comedy exploring women's sexuality through candid stories of sexual discoveries; **Rove** by Mary Patierno (1991), in which the filmmaker explores her lover's body; **She Don't Fade** by Cheryl Dunye (1991), wherein a young black lesbian tries new ways to meet women; **Spin Cycle** by Aarin Burch (1991), a provocative exploration by the filmmaker of her aspirations as a lover and an artist; **First Base** by Megan Siler (1991), a touching story of two schoolgirls scheming about kissing boys but enjoying each other more; **Bodles In Trouble** by Marusia Bociurkiw (1991), which uses lesbian erotic language and a sense of the absurd to present a call to action in deference of the body from legislative seizure; and **Nice Girls Don't Do It** by Kathy Daymond (1990), a frank and sexually explicit discussion of female ejaculation.

Friday, July 3 8:15 PM
MFA
Saturday, July 4 9:00 PM
HFA
Together Alone Boston Premieres
Directed by P.J. Castalleneta, 1991, USA, 85 minutes
Remember going home with a perfect stranger and telling them things you wouldn't tell your closest friend? P.J. Castalleneta's revelatory two hander was rated best feature at the 1991 San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. Like the ideal one night stand its "compelling, compassionate, unrelieved

and exhausting." — *San Francisco Chronicle*

Saturday, July 4 7:00 PM
HFA
Perfectly Normal Cambridge Premiere
Directed by Yves Simoneau, 1990, Canada, 107 minutes
Canadian director Yves Simoneau was represented in the Second Annual Boston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival with **Pouvoir Intime**; now his latest comic gem, although never homosexually explicit is suffused with a gay sensibility. After all, a film that finishes with the hero singing Bellini's Norma in drag for a group of macho hockey players can't be all straight. **Perfectly Normal** is a heartening tale full of dreams and joyous inspiration." — 15th Festival of Festivals, Toronto

Sunday, July 5 5:15 / 9:15 PM
ICA
Olivla: The Well of Loneliness
Directed by Jacqueline Audry, 1951, France, 88 minutes
Simone Simon and Edwige Feuiller star as a pair of head mistresses in a girls school, each with her own competing coterie of girls. Director Jacqueline Audry's lushly sensuous vision confounded the censors of 1951 and even today this discreetly erotic tale remains wonderfully effective due to the integrity of the women who wrote and directed what was to become an important, but little seen film in the history of Lesbian cinema.

Sunday, July 5 7:15 PM
ICA
Affengell Boston Premiere
Directed by Rosa von Praunheim, 1990, Germany, 87 minutes
Rosa von Praunheim's sly tribute to German actress Lotti Huber presents her as a particularly mad cross between Bette Davis, Tallulah Bankhead and Sylvia Sidney and once again demonstrates a gay man's adoration of divas of "a certain age." "The screen sparkles with Huber's

wit, warmth, charm and irreverence..." — 16th Toronto Festival of Festivals

In Person: Director John Greyson
Friday, July 10 6:00 PM
MFA
Shorts: Confronting Homophobia Boston Premieres
A program of shorts focusing on the topic of homophobia including **Balls** by Marklee Morris (1991), a funny, poetic monologue about sex role expectations and the games we all play; **Fighting in Southeast Louisiana** by Peter Friedman & Jean-Francois Brunet (1991), an absorbing portrait of a local mailman in a small Louisiana town who charmingly relates his straight-forward approach to being accepted. Less straight-forward, **Son of Sam and Delilah** by Charles Atlas (1991) and **The Making of "Monsters"** by John Greyson (1991) are both alternately hilarious and horrifying examinations of violence against gays, utilizing clever melanges of pop and high culture references, and wickedly entertaining send-ups of both gay and straight milieux.

Friday, July 10 8:15 PM
MFA
My Father Is Coming Boston Premiere
Directed by Monika Treut, 1992, Germany, 85 minutes
Harlequin Exterminator
Directed by Marta Balletbò-Coll, 1991, Spain, 12 minutes
Monica Treut's (**Virgin Machine**) quirky take on American sex and culture is the riotous tale of two lesbian lovers who attempt to keep their relationship secret when one of the woman is faced with an unexpected visit by her father from Germany. New Age sex goddess Annie Sprinkle adds another angle when she seduces the already confused "Papa" in this engaging polysexual comedy of manners.

Saturday, July 11 7:00 PM
HFA
Dressed in Blue Boston Premiere
Directed by Antonio Gimenez Rico, 1983, Spain, 96 minutes
For all of those who think they've heard all they want to about drag and its Zen, along comes **Dressed in Blue** to shed new light on a topic familiar to gay audiences. Set in Madrid, this eye-opening documentary concerns six transvestites who have moved to the city in order to change their gender and live a "modern life." Includes a striking scene of silicone implant surgery — Not for the squeamish!

Saturday, July 11 9:00 PM
HFA
Via Appia Boston Premiere
Directed by Jöchen Hick, 1989, Germany, 90 minutes
Frank, a handsome German airline steward wakes up one morning after a night of casual sex in Rio to find "Welcome to the AIDS Club" written in lipstick on the bathroom mirror. This begins an intensely unsettling and controversial thriller that charts Frank's journey to the bathhouses and beaches of Brazil in his attempt to find his fatal lover.

In Person: Directors Richard Nobile and Paula Gauthier
Sunday, July 12 1:00 PM
MFA
Shorts: Local Ties Program #1
A program highlighting the work of local and formerly local film and video makers, featuring the world premier of **Time Out** by Richard Nobile (1992), a finely crafted drama about a young man facing daunting decisions about coming out to his parents and being HIV-tested. Also included are **Which Is Scary** by Paula Gauthier (1991), a highly inventive look at seven people, their sexuality and stories; **Seth's Aunts** by Nina Dabek (1991), a glistening black-and-white poem about two juggling women whom Seth calls "aunts"; **Because This Is About Love** by Shulee Ong (1991) profiles five lesbian and gay couples who have chosen to



Diamanda Galas In *Sphinxes Without Secrets*

express their life-long commitment to each other in marriage; and **The Disco Years** by Robert King (1991), a crowd-pleasing tale of a suburban high school student's sexual awakening during the late '70s.

Sunday, July 12 5:15 / 9:15 PM
ICA

Vegas In Space

Directed by Philip R. Ford, 1991, USA, 85 minutes
A camp extravaganza that plays like a cross between a Carmen Miranda musical and an early episode of *Star Trek*. **Vegas In Space** is a low budget sci-fi-adventure-musical-comedy starring the legendary drag queen Doris Fish.

Sunday, July 12 7:15 PM
ICA

Mala Noche

Directed by Gus Van Sant, 1986, USA, 80 minutes
Thanksgiving Prayer
Directed by Gus Van Sant, 1991, USA, 3 minutes
Gus Van Sant's Diary
Directed by Gus Van Sant
After the phenomenal successes of **Drugstore Cowboy** and **My Own Private Idaho**, director Gus Van Sant's stunning first feature is strangely still not available on cassette. In response to numerous requests we are happy to present a mini Van Sant retro by adding two shorts — **Gus Van Sant's Diary** and **Thanksgiving Prayer** to this encore showing of **Mala Noche**.

Friday, July 17 6:00 PM
MFA

Shorts: Lesbian Identities Boston Premieres

A program of lesbian short films and videos including **Meeting of Two Queens** by Cecilia Barriga (1991), a witty videotape with Greta Garbo and Marlene Dietrich cast as lovers; **West Coast Crones: A Glimpse into the Lives of Nine Old Lesbians** by Madeline Muir (1991), a moving, insightful look at the lives of a group of San Franciscan lesbians, all over 60; **Out In Suburbia: The Story of Eleven Lesbians** by Pam Walton (1989), in which lesbians discuss their lives and issues including marriage, motherhood, and discrimination; and **Among Good Christian Peoples** by Catherine Saalfeld (1991), Jacqueline Woodson's humorous and poignant recollection of growing up black, lesbian and a Jehovah's Witness.

Friday, July 17 8:00 PM
MFA

Changer: A Record of the Times

Directed by Francis Reid & Judy Diugacz, 1991, USA, 60 minutes
Stand On Your Man
Directed by Susan Ardill, 1991, Great Britain, 20 minutes
Starring Chris Williamson, Margie Adam, Meg Christian, Holly Near, Vicki Randle and Bonnie Raitt, **The Changer** emotionally recalls the birth of women's music with still and clips from the 70s and 80s and recent footage of a 1990 Williamson concert in Berkeley. Featuring performances by k.d.lang, Patsy Cline, The Well Oiled Sister and The Stetson Sisters, **Stand On Your Man** looks at the new queer preoccupation with country western music and style.

Double Feature Videos — One Admission Good for Both Shows

Saturday, July 18 6:00 / 8:30 PM
HFA
Sphinxes Without Secrets Boston Premiere
Directed by Maria Beatty, 1991, USA, 58 minutes
No Mona Lisa smiles here: performance artists Diamanda Galas, Holly Hughes, Robble McCauley, Rachel Rosenthal, Lenora Champagne, Ellie Covan, Laurie Anderson, Pat Oleszko, Jeannie Hutchins, Carolee Schneemann, Diane Torr, Martha

Wilson, Annie Sprinkle and *many, many more* spill their guts about what outrages and delights them including sexuality, racism, censorship, homophobia, AIDS, power politics and the future of the planet.

Saturday, July 18 7:00 / 9:30 PM
HFA

The Sluts and Goddess Video Workshop or How To Be a Sex Goddess In 101 Easy Steps Boston Premiere

Directed by Maria Beatty & Annie Sprinkle, 1992, USA, 50 minutes
This "How To Video" is a humorous, heartfelt, worshipful look at Sex especially designed to teach women to "be happier and healthier, improve your sex life, and even create miracles." The tape features composer Pauline Oliveros' performance of **Nancy's Nightmare** which transforms "These Boots Are Made for Walking" into a tribute to the ultimate lesbian S&M fantasy.

Sunday, July 19 1:00 PM
MFA

Frida

Directed by Paul Leduc, 1987, Mexico, 108 minutes
A lush and reflective portrait of the turbulent life of Frida Kahlo, Mexico's flamboyant artist and wife of muralist Diego Rivera. Told in engaging flashbacks, **Frida** recalls Kahlo in all her roles: a stirring public figure, political activist, bold individualist and one of this century's most expressive painters.

Sunday, July 19 5:15 / 9:15 PM
ICA

Strlp Jack Naked Boston Premiere

Directed by Ron Peck, 1991, Great Britain, 91 minutes
A moving personal account of a gay filmmaker who used his art to come out. Peck examines just how far we have come since the 70s utilizing many of the more explicit scenes he had cut from his first feature **Nighthawks**. NOTE: **Strlp Jack Naked** was scheduled for last year's festival but was never shown due to print shipping problems — it's here this year, don't miss it!

Sunday, July 19 7:15 PM
ICA

Empire State Boston Premiere

Directed by Ron Peck, 1987, Great Britain, 104 minutes
Ron Peck's next feature after his ground breaking **Nighthawks** is sort of a gay **Long Good Friday** featuring a motley crew of American gangsters as S&M and London hustlers. Jimmy Somerville and the Communards set the pace on the soundtrack for this big splashy take-off on Martin Scorsese territory that is governed by an unmistakably ga point of view.

In Person: Visual Artist Paul Cadmus & Director David Sutherland

Thursday, July 23 8:00 PM
HFA
Paul Cadmus: Infant Terrible at 80
Directed by David Sutherland, 1986, USA, 60 minutes
Acclaimed visual artist Paul Cadmus makes a rare public appearance to introduce local filmmaker David Sutherland's literate and affecting Cadmus portrait and to comment upon the recent unveiling after 58 years of his banned in 1934 painting "The Fleet's Inl." In the award-winning documentary, the quixotic American figurist is astonishing and his reminiscences are oddly discreet, especially where sexuality is concerned, but there's no doubting his friendships with Forster and Auden.

Friday, July 24 6:00 PM
MFA

Saturday, July 25 9:00 PM
HFA

Nocturne Boston Premieres

Directed by Mark T. Harris, 1990, USA, 100 minutes

Eye to Eye

Directed by Isabel Hegner, 1991, USA, 18 minutes
Featuring a beautifully written and staged explicit sex scene **Nocturne** centers on gay men's relationships and what happens to Martin (T. Ryder Smith) as he looks for love in New York City. He meets Gino (Gabriel Amor), who is looking for sex but not love, and problems occur when their desires collide. NOTE: Not to be confused with the same title but Lesbian themed film that played in last year's New Festival

Director Christopher Münch in person at both shows

Friday, July 24 8:15 PM
MFA

Saturday, July 25 7:00 PM
HFA

The Hours and Times Boston Premieres

Directed by Christopher Münch, 1991, USA, 58 minutes
Relax (MFA Only)
Directed by Christopher Newby, 1991, Great Britain, 25 minutes
Resonance (HFA Only)
Directed by Stephen Cummins, 1991, USA, 12 minutes
"In the mid-Sixties, on the up curve of the Beatles' rise-and-fall, Brian Epstein escorted John Lennon to Barcelona for a weekend vacation. Epstein's infatuation leads to a sexual episode usually missing from the John Lennon story. It's a brilliant achievement, half-way through The Hours and Times you suddenly suspend all disbelief." — Sixth London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

Directors Myra Paci and Nina Dabek in person

Sunday, July 26 1:00 PM
MFA

Shorts: Local Ties Program #2

Various Directors, 4 shorts, 1991-92, 72 minutes
Transeltown by Myra Paci (1991), **Jamaica Plain Is a Woman** (1992), **Seth's Aunt** by Nina Dabek (1991) and **Because This Is About Love** by Shulee Ong (1992)

Sunday, July 26 5:15 / 9:15 PM
ICA

Deathwatch

Directed by Vic Morrow, 1967, USA, 88 minutes
Un Chant d'Amour
Directed by Jean Genet, 1950, France, 26 minutes
"The murder, the thief and the homo: Director Vic Morrow (yes, the actor) keeps the cipher like characterizations but brings a cinematic quality to Genet's one set stage play. Leonard Nimoy (yes, Mr. Spock) (who co-produced the film with Morrow) is the small time thief who battles with queer Paul Mazursky (yes, the director) over the illiterate, muscular king convict Michael Forest. **Deathwatch** is a bold gay themed mainstream movie that vanished rapidly on its release and has not been screened since." — San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

Sunday, July 26 7:15 PM
ICA

Scrubbers

Directed by Mai Zetterling, 1982, Great Britain, 93 minutes
Mai Zetterling's irreverent adventures of the lesbian prisoners known as the "Hellhole Bitches" contains such deathless lines as "I love you Eva, I fuckin' love you" (which booms out over the prison quadrangle) and "Give us a lick not a prick" — one of the best women behind bars movies ever made and unavailable for many years, **Scrubbers** is pulpy, poetic and political.

Friday, July 31 6:00 PM
MFA

Saturday, August 1 9:00 PM
HFA

Pepl, LucI, Bom Boston Premieres

Directed by Pedro Almodovar, 1980, Spain, 80 minutes
Time Expled (MFA Only)
Directed by Danny Leiner, 1991, USA, 29 minutes
Loverville (MFA Only)
Directed by Bohdan Zachary, 1991, USA, 5 minutes
Almodovar's debut film made in 1980 with a very young Carmen Maura has never been distributed in the United States till now. **Pepl, LucI, Bom** is the story of an independent modern woman who forms an S&M relationship with her best friend, Bom, and Luci, the wife of the local policeman! A riotous comedy with plot devices that can be seen in virtually all of Almodovar's subsequent films.

Friday, July 31 8:15 PM
MFA

Saturday, August 1 7:00 PM
HFA

The Living End Boston Premieres

Directed by Greg Araki, 1991, USA, 92 minutes
Backyard Movie
Directed by Bruce Weber, 1991, USA, 9 minutes

"**The Living End** has more action than the A-Team. Two fatalistic L.A. boys discover they are both HIV Positive and set about on an unhinged serio-comic spree of violence and abandon. 'It's like a Hope/Crosby movie,'" explains director Araki, "in which Crosby fucks Hope.'" — Sixth London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

Sunday, August 2 5:15 / 9:15 PM
ICA

Where Are We?: Our Trip Through America Boston Premiere

Directed by Jeffrey Friedman & Rob Epstein, 1992, USA, 73 minutes
Dead Boys Club
Directed by Mark Christopher, 1992, USA, 25 minutes
When two gay filmmakers, Academy Award winners Rob Epstein (**Common Threads, The Times of Harvey Milk**) and Jeffrey Friedman set out by van on a journey into the heart of the heartland of America, they create a sort of gay Charles Kurwalt TV segment that is a telling and affecting testament to how 'outside' homosexuals still are viewed in America today. For those of us who live in the Back Bay or Beacon Hill, vacation in P-town and brunch in the South End, this is a reminder that to most of the United States we are aliens from "another country." — 1992 Sundance Film Festival Selection

Sunday, August 2 7:15 PM
ICA

Something For Everyone

Directed by Harold Prince, 1970, USA, 110 minutes
Broadway producer/director Hal Prince's first foray into the world of cinema was this stylish adaptation of the novel **The Cook**. In the novel, a young man becomes an Austrian countess' cook and seduces the entire royal family with irresistible menus. In the Hollywood version sex is substituted for food, and the result is one of the screen's wittiest and sophisticated comedies. Starring Angela Lansbury and Michael York (he claims it's his favorite role) as the young man who beds everyone regardless of sex or station.

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MFA Ticket Policy
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HFA Ticket Policy
HFA accepts cash only. Tickets available one hour before show time. Separate admissions for each show. Tickets for consecutive screenings may be purchased together at the same time. HFA's Season Series Pass is not valid for festival.

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Preston

Continued from page 9

a college student that took place on Race Point beach in Provincetown when I was in my 20s. It was, in my memory, *perfect*. Whenever I can convey my remembrance of that encounter in a story or a book, then I'm writing good porn, just as much as when I write about exhilarated S&M.

Is it possible to make a living as a pornographer in the '90s?

It's possible, but barely. You sure need to type fast. The payment per piece is ridiculously low. Being able to produce quantity is the only way to make a real buck. I'm glad I can write other things and get them published at better rates; it allows me to support my pornography, which, I believe, is some of the most important writing I do.

John Preston is soliciting manuscripts for the sequel to *Flesh and the Word*. Inquiries should be addressed to Box 5314, Portland, Maine 04101.

AIDS

Continued from page 11

blood. (These antibodies were so similar to HIV antibodies that the lab animals tested positive on standard HIV antibody tests). In other words, when the body is exposed to blood products it is unfamiliar with, it can be tricked into attacking itself (here it is important to remember that semen contains lymphocytes, white blood cells). This concurs with earlier work done by Joseph Sonnabend in New York before the HIV theory took precedence. This is also why, contrary to those who dismiss those of us who would question the HIV-as-single-cause theory, multifactorialists are enthusiastic supporters of the prevention model exemplified by safer sex practices. All this considered, alternative pathogenesis models of AIDS (non-HIV etiology, either multifactorial or autoimmunity) must be explored with as much dedication as HIV.

Clearly, giving the lion's share of research attention and funds to HIV has been a tragic disaster in care, allowing manageable opportunistic infections to run rampant and kill needlessly. Looking at cofactors and alternative theories follows the same logic. If the entire research effort is on the wrong track, we must know. We must face it, no matter how painful or frightening.

Arguments have been put forth from many camps that the public is now so programmed to think of HIV-1 as the sole cause and only real factor that it would cause widespread confusion and panic to augment or change this model. This is eerily reminiscent of how the mainstream press refused to distinguish between "AIDS" and "HIV-positive" status for years, because it was "too technical" for the average person to grasp. This of course changed when Magic Johnson announced his HIV-positive status and members of the press fell all over each other trying to explain the "subtle" differences between the conditions.

Activists like Michael Callen hold arguments, equally valid, that HIV itself—the idea of a "killer virus" as deadly as the plague—has created fear and hysteria far worse than ever expected, that it leads to automatic discrimination even within affected communities, casting people with what is now casually termed "HIV infection" as dangerous, dying, doomed and perhaps not even lucid. Which, of course, makes it easier to dismiss long-term survivors like Callen. (This does not even begin to consider that recent research suggests that not all people with HIV-antibody positive test results have active virus in their bodies. This could help explain why recent data shows that not all HIV-antibody positive people have developed illness).

Even if the public face of AIDS remains static in its current sound-byte form—easy to digest, if insultingly simplistic—there must be a change of vision within affected communities and among researchers and caregivers. It is clear that AIDS is not casually transmitted. And yet, strange cases like that of allegedly-doomed-by-a-trip-to-the-dentist Kimberly Bergalis have incited panic. AIDS workers agree that the case was an anomaly, but they have not explained why to the public or even the affected communities. Those who feel Bergalis died of sheer fright, of an enforced model and overly high doses of toxic nucleoside drugs, are not heard. It makes for mistrust and bitterness within the affected communities and baffled fear in the public at large.

Finally, hope must be acknowledged. This is not being done due to the high correlation of dissident thinking (refusal to see HIV as the sole cause or as a death sentence) along with distrust of nucleoside drugs like AZT among long-term AIDS survivors. This cre-

ates a credibility gap between those in AIDS work and the success stories, leading some to feel that the current model is so workable—if deadly—that it is being hung onto deliberately. It is clear that high-ranking officials in research, medical care, the larger scientific community, the ranks of investigative journalists and the government have known about serious doubts and possible flaws in the HIV-as-single-cause etiology for years. The atmosphere of fear and lack of trust is oppressive. Careers are at stake; reputations are vulnerable. Vast sums of money are involved.

But so too are human lives. In this age of for-profit medicine, the human dimensions of AIDS have been lost, most sadly in the communities that originally mustered an extraordinary effort to care for the sick. Because AIDS was so mysterious in the beginning, so insurmountable because it was diagnosed so late in the course of the syndrome that the deadly effects of multiple opportunistic infections could not be healed, a fatalism came forth that still prevails. In the view of many activists and people with AIDS, this fatalism is deadly.

If a sea change is to take place, it must involve all concerned parties, but most importantly people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions (those who are viewed as being "infected" themselves). The hope embodied in those with the most at stake must become the driving force behind forging new paradigms and building new models that are workable.

The doctor-patient/caregiver-client dichotomy must change dramatically. There has been considerable movement in this area, but not deep questioning of the essentials. With hope must come some gravity. The alternative is more tragedy.

...

The model now in use in AIDS work is a failure. It is time for major changes in AIDS research, prevention, treatment, care and service provision as well as in the politics surrounding the AIDS epidemic. We must stop denying hope as well as failure. We must decide that we want dramatic improvements, not the status quo. Rather than accepting a status quo that perpetuates AIDS, we must work towards ending it forever. We need honest scientific inquiry and open debate.

I considered writing this article anonymously for real fear of retribution. This speaks directly to the serious moral issues at stake and the ethics that will guide us forward. But perhaps the time has come that people who are willing to raise these questions in light of the enormous obstacles preventing such debate will no longer be dismissed as "in denial" or members of the "lunatic fringe." It's small wonder that in a public speaking engagement in Cambridge, Mass., Michael Callen said the long-term survivors of AIDS that he knows have all learned to "just shut up about it," and live their lives. □

Nina

Continued from page 14

slight, real or imagined, cut me raw.
But the skin grew back again a little
tougher, a little less innocent, and a
little more black.

Simone's accounts may not always be this direct and trustworthy, as for instance when she tells of her early gigs at the Midland Bar in New York City. She says that her original audience of serious drinkers is eventually supplanted by serious listeners, "students," she calls this latter group. I suspect these "students" were actually gay men and lesbians, who have a tradition of "finding" and supporting great non-mainstream women singers, including Chris Connor, Blossom Dearie, and certainly Nina Simone. At least in my college days, if one played a Simone record for (straight) students they would invariably say, "Is that a guy?" and go on talking as if the greatest contralto of the age wasn't wafting through the room. At the Atlantic House, a gay bar in Provincetown, there was (at least before its fire) a faded old poster that read: "Nina Simone Live at the 'A' House, August 1-30." We would gape at it and marvel at a time when the likes of Nina Simone would perform in any one place for an entire month.

Nina Simone will perform in a rare appearance June 29, 1992, at Symphony Hall in Boston. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster or by phone at (617) 931-2000.

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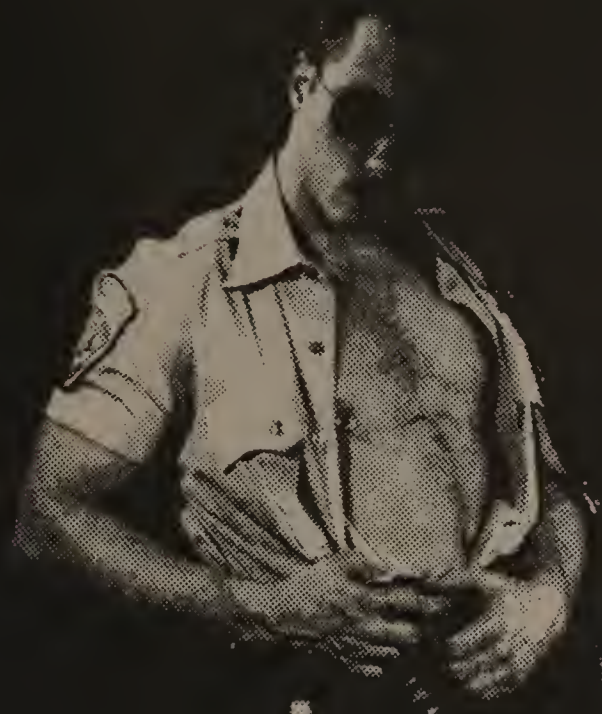
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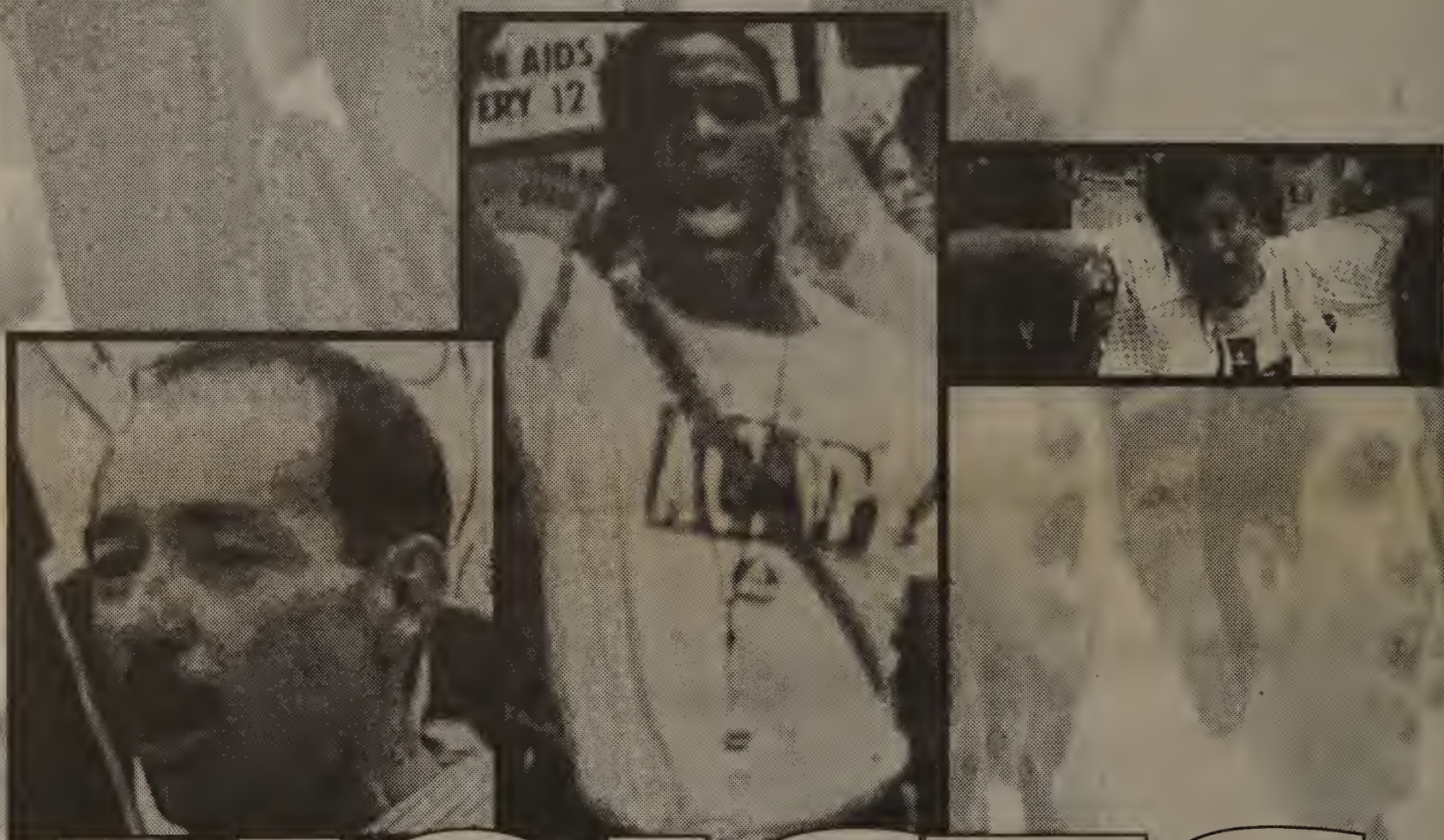
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POLITICAL MOVEMENT IN GAY AND
LESBIAN POLITICS SINCE STONEWALL."**

-City Limits, LONDON

**"'VOICES FROM THE FRONT' OFFERS A NEEDED
REMINDER OF HOW INVENTIVE, FUNNY, SLICK AND
SMART AIDS ACTIVISTS HAVE BEEN."**

-SF Bay Times



VOICES *f r o m t h e* FRONT

A new documentary on AIDS activism in America
by **TESTING THE LIMITS**

Producers/Directors: **Robyn Hutt, Sandra Elgear, David Meieran**

Music: **Micheal Callen, Tony Malliaris, Roger Pettyjohn, Jimmy Somerville.**

© 1992 a FRAMELINE release

**SOMERVILLE
THEATRE**

55 Davis Square • Somerville • tel: 625-5700

Friday, June 12 — Thursday, June 18

Mon-Fri: 7:00 & 9:00, Sat & Sun: 5:00, 7:00 & 9:00

Photo: Ben Thornberry

PERSONALS

GCN REPLY BOXES

Replies to *GCN* Boxes should be addressed to *GCN* Box#, *Gay Community News*, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116. This applies to *GCN* Boxes only, not to P.O. Boxes. Mail may be addressed to *GCN* boxes for five weeks after the issue in which it appears. Check carefully to be sure you have the correct box number!

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

1-900-740-6600

Private mailboxes \$1.39

WOULD-BE GM PORN STARS

Boston-based video voyeur is ready when you are. If you wanna go solo or do it with friends, I've got the camcorder to capture your performance. We each keep a copy. *GCN* Box 358 (44)

I WOULDN'T LIE TO YOU BABY, IT'S MAINLY A PHYSICAL THING

Gal, 31, big, strong and sultry, eclectic tastes, diverse interests seeking confident woman not afraid to play, match wits, and take chances. I'm looking for a woman who knows herself and what she wants. Seeking playmate, but open to developing a connection. *GCN* Box 631 (20.2)
Rhode Island Dyke - Leftish, moonwatching Baby Boomer, adrift in a sea of personals - Throw me a

line I can swallow! P.O. Box 40203, Providence, RI 02904 (44)

QUEER ACTING, QUEER LOOKING

Radical, politically-active, out, feminist, Jewish, bi-dyke bottom. Seeking women to speak to my body and stimulate my mind. Long walks on the beach not necessary. *GCN* Box KP3 (44)

KINKY ORAL STUFF

WM 27 will put my tongue anywhere! Especially armpits, feet, other sweaty parts. Prefer smooth-chested 18-26. Suite 424, 304 Newbury St. Boston, MA 02115 (42)

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX

Dyke, 28, more boyish than butch, currently looking to fuck in a big way. I want an aggressive woman (women?) who will take charge sometimes, and lay back others. Can you kiss? I mean, really kiss? Looking for a woman with good head and not afraid to use it. Progressive politics and creative experimentation a plus. Let's not just talk. *GCN* Box 286 (20.2)

SOUTHERN TEXAS

GWM, 23, 6'1", 190 lbs. New from CA wants to meet friends and more. You 18-28+. Will travel. Send photo Jeff, P.O. Box 1641, Kingsville, TX 78364-1641 (20.2)

HOT MEN ARE WAITING, WILLING AND ABLE!

Tired of striking out at the bar game? Join R.M.C. today and choose the man you'll meet tonight! Call us today for personalized service. (617) 848-0027 (20.1)

GWF SEEKS MATE

GWF, 38, Professionally employed seeks the right woman. Likes music, movies, is romantic. Wants a monogamous relationship. I'm ready.

Let's see if it works. *GCN* Box F38 (44)

BIRTHDAY GIFT

Wanted: Inspiring woman for my good friend, 39, who is warm, creative, emotionally honest; artist and therapist. Intelligent, tells good jokes, looks Wow! and more 861-8426 (20.1)

YOUR EMOTIONAL RESCUE

I'm looking for someone who wants to share thoughts, feelings, desire and friendship. I also want to grow and learn new things. I'm doing time for a crime I didn't commit and I could use a long-term mental and emotional exchange. My

Are you too sexy for these ads?

Why not write your own and prove it?

\$10 buys you 10 weeks to see if anyone else thinks so. For a limited time, your personal can appear five times (ten weeks) for only \$10. See form on this page for details.

skin is black, but color me lonely: Larry Favors, #204-687, Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699-0001

BOYFRIENDS WANTED

Handsome funny affectionate GWM, 30s seeks easy-going, friendly, sober boyfriend 20s. Me: active, productive, successful, integrity, spiritual principles. You: leftist, intellectual, capable student/artist. *GCN* Box 306 (49)

22 Bi M. 170cm, 60 kg. cutie, Oriental boy looking for dependable dad. 30-60. Please support me financially, mentally, technically. I love Drs., Pilots. Help! *GCN* Box 221 (42)

SHARE PARENTING

Living on the outer Cape, I, a gay male, would like to have a child and possibly share the parenting of that child with a lesbian. Write and we can explore the possibilities. P.O. Box 918, Provincetown, MA 02657 (48)

GM ARTIST 55

Needs honest friend to trust and inspire. *GCN* Box 551 (49)

White, soft, firm, skinny, small-boned, fem voice, passive looking for big-boned, tall, heavy, soft or fat, white, dark hair/eyes, big face/chin/nose. Hungar, 9801 S. 157th Pl., Gilbert, AZ 85234. (49)

Vermont Bear, tall, beard. Sane but kinky, short hair, very hairy, cut offs, work boots, home video exchange. Day, Box 3086, Burlington, VT. 0540 (46)

ARE YOU TIRED OF PEOPLE PISSING ALL OVER YOU?

I'm not. GWM looking for men interested in summer water sports. Older, hairier preferred though age, race really unimportant. Please have imagination. *GCN* Box RU6 (20.1)
Oh, you are not just in a little trouble. I hope that you will find a way to make it up to me.

FOR SEX ONLY

GWF, professional, mid-thirties has spring fever. I have a lover, just want to have more sex. Any women interested in wild nights or afternoon delight? Race, age unimportant. Serious replies only. *GCN* Box L22 (46)

Bisexual single mom needs summer vacation. Looking for bisexual/lesbian for playtime and dates. I am 37, attractive, artistic, fit. Drug/chem-free. All races welcomed. (20.1)

WANT TO GET FUCKED UP...

...the ass, or down the throat? Me too. GWM, bearded, Looking to get really hot this summer. Let me bring my 12-pack of Trojans to your room, your basement, your car, your backyard-yard, you get the idea.... *GCN* Box K12 (20.1)

DATES OR SEX

What about dates for sex? Is your calendar too full of things that are too serious. Mine is. Let me pencil you in for something fun. Slightly stressed-out LF, late twenties, seeks women for occasional diversions. Age, race unimportant. *GCN* Box 676 (46)

Attractive, trim, easy-going, healthy HIV+ GWM into erotic massage and more. Lay back, enjoy! Also alternative therapies, audio, travel. (404) 876-9529, P.O. Box 53142, Atlanta, GA. 30355. (46)

DO YOU BITE

GWM 24, 5'10", 150 lbs. attractive with smooth boy body wants to bite other smooth boy bodies. Safe, discreet. Pix encouraged, but not necessary for reply. *GCN* Box B12 (40)

Radio/Cable TV for and about us. Send \$2 (applied to order) for catalog to Box 11212, Washington, DC 20008 (48)

GWM, 30, sexy, blonde, slim, cute buns seeks well-hung studs for fun times. Love to deep-throat. P.O. Box 656, Cambridge, MA 02140.

CHILD CARE

Lesbian couple seeking live-in child care help for

infant girl in Cambridge. Experience with children, non-smoker, drivers' license required. Call 354-5447

Lesbian moms need child care for two infants, Sept-June, 8:30-5:00, Cambridge. Call 868-4251 or 492-1091, leave message. (40)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FISHER PRICE PIXEL CAMERAS

Do you have one? Has the novelty worn off? I hope so because I really need one. Write to *GCN* Box Pix, name your price. (38)

DYKE DIVERS

Looking for lesbian scuba diving buddies. New England area lesbian SCUBA diving group seeks new members. For info, (617) 282-4992 (46)

Key youth issues for gay men and lesbians detailed in audiotapes collected by veteran reporter John Zeh. Send \$2 (applied to order) for catalog to Box 11212, Washington, DC 20008 (48)

Reporter seeks examples of businesses complying with or violating Americans with Disabilities Act. Write Capital Coverage by John Zeh. Box 11212, Washington, DC 20008 (48)

WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE'S TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ORGANIZERS

August 7-16, 1992. Cost: \$275-\$500, sliding scale. Program held in western Massachusetts. To receive a brochure and application, contact WRL, 339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012. Apply by June 1.

YOUNG CREATIVE WRITERS CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Multicultural anthology of creative writing by young lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals. *From Now On* seeks poetry, drama, fiction from writers born in 1966 or later, especially from people of color. Many submissions already received. Send works ASAP to Lowenthal/Wofford, PO Box A-164, Hanover, NH 03755. (42)

BATTERED LESBIANS

Free Boston-area and North Shore support groups for women currently or formerly experiencing physical, emotional, sexual or economic abuse by a woman partner. Call the Network for Battered Lesbians at 617-424-8611 with a safe number and times to reach you. (Voice answering machine; TTY response available.) Call for accessibility and childcare information.

FEEDBACK ON YOUR WRITING?

5 Boston-based writers seek 3 more for newly-formed group. Women and people of color particularly welcome. Gerry 617-395-5094. (40)

GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL YOUTH
For a list of newsletters, pen pal programs, talk-lines, and other resources, send a self-addressed stamped envelope along with a note requesting the National Resources List to the Youth Outreach Program, 1213 N. Highland Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038. This list is available free to anyone 23 or under.

HELP WANTED

EARN \$15-\$20 AN HOUR

National gay and lesbian rights organization seeks paid volunteers to attend gay and lesbian events and enroll new members. Have fun, make a difference on gay and lesbian rights and AIDS. Earn up to \$15-\$20 an hour. Call (617) 894-4069, Outside Mass., call 1-800-777-HRCF (42)

PCA WANTED

PCA for disabled women. AM and PM hours. Assistance with dressing, showers, meal prep, meds, housework. Must be flexible, mature, reliable, sensitive. \$7.85/hr. Call Steve, 254-4094

Domestic Relations Attorney

We are opening our search for a domestic relations attorney in the Family Law unit. The Center is a clinical placement for Harvard and Northeastern Law Schools and a neighborhood law center. The Domestic Relations attorney is responsible for providing legal representation and advice to low income clients in domestic relations matters within the ISC service area, works closely with the other attorneys and paralegals in the Family Law unit, and supervises and trains law school students. This position requires substantive knowledge of Massachusetts Domestic Relations law, advocacy experience, a minimum of one year in the Probate and Family Courts of Massachusetts, admission to a State Bar, excellent oral and written communication skills, word processing skills, and strong organizational skills. Mediation and negotiation skills necessary. Ability to work independently necessary. Previous experience working with community organizations and issues is desirable. Preference will be given to those candidates with teaching experience and/or bilingual in Spanish. Bicultural candidates are encouraged to apply. Salary D.O.E. Excellent benefits.

Please send cover letter and resume to Hannah L. Kilson, Legal Services Center, 3529 Washington Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

People of color, gay men and lesbians encouraged to apply. Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer.

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

10 for 10

IF YOU PLACE A PERSONAL IN *GCN* BETWEEN NOW AND JULY 1ST, PAY JUST \$10 AND YOUR AD WILL APPEAR EVERY OTHER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS. *

HEADLINE (optional)

BOLD

max. 30 characters

FLAMER

max. 20 characters

COPY

BASIC COST

☐ *Special offer: 10 for 10 Personals
\$10 for 1st 25 words; .50¢ for each add'l word
\$_____ per ad for 5 runs (10 weeks) \$_____
☐ Flamer \$3.50 ☐ Bold \$2.00 \$_____
(one time cost for 10 for 10 personals 5 runs (10 weeks))

Business:

\$10 for 1st 25 words; .50¢ for each add'l word
\$_____ per ad x _____ (number of runs) \$_____
☐ Non-Business:
\$7 for 1st 25 words; 25¢ for each add'l word
\$_____ per ad x _____ (number of runs) \$_____

HEADLINES

☐ Flamer \$3.50 x _____ (number of runs) \$_____
☐ Bold \$2.00 x _____ (number of runs) \$_____

DISCOUNTS

20-30 Consecutive weeks. Deduct 15% \$_____
31+ Consecutive weeks. Deduct 20% \$_____

BOX SERVICE

☐ Pick-up box. \$4 for 6 weeks \$_____
☐ Forwarding box. \$7 for six weeks \$_____

BOXED DISPLAY CLASSIFIEDS

☐ \$20 per column inch, _____ inches x \$20 \$_____

TOTAL

\$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Deadline for Classifieds is Friday at 3 p.m. for the next Friday's edition. All ads must be prepaid. All display ads must be camera ready unless alternative plans have been made. No ads accepted over the telephone. Please clip and return this ad form with payment to *GCN Classifieds*, 62 Berkley St., Boston, MA, 02116. Visa/MasterCard accepted.

CATEGORY

- ☐ 10 FOR 10
- ☐ PERSONALS
- ☐ ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ☐ HELP WANTED
- ☐ HOUSING WANTED
- ☐ ROOMMATE WANTED
- ☐ VOLUNTEERS
- ☐ APARTMENTS
- ☐ VACATIONS
- ☐ MESSAGE
- ☐ FOR SALE
- ☐ PUBLICATIONS
- ☐ ORGANIZATIONS
- ☐ SERVICES
- ☐ MOVERS
- ☐ OTHER _____

Classifieds

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

Duties: General administration and staff management; fundraising - emphasis on major donor and membership development; finance; policy and program; public speaking. Qualifications: 3-5 years public non-profit administrative experience; demonstrated fundraising/management/media skills; sophisticated understanding of gay/lesbian/diversity/AIDS issues. Salary competitive. Resume to NGLTF ED Search, 1734 14th St., NW, WWA, DC 20009 by July 3. Women, POCs encouraged to apply, EEO.

PEACE AND JUSTICE ORGANIZER

Boston Mobilization for Survival, working to oppose U.S. militarism and to promote social and economic justice, seeks head organizer to build grassroots involvement and activism, and to expand our network of members and supporters. Key responsibilities include planning political program and strategy, increasing membership involvement and leadership skills, fundraising and event organizing. Minimum 5 years organizing experience required. Salary \$27,000/yr., plus benefits. Equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Please send resume, two writing samples, and three references to: Boston Mobilization for Survival, c/o Search Committee, 11 Garden St., Cambridge, MA 02138

DAY/EVENING ATTENDANTS

Personal care attendants to assist disabled couple and friendly dog. No experience necessary, but must have a drivers' license and be dependable, mature energetic. Weekdays or weekends, all shifts. \$200-\$250/wk. Call 731-6228. (38)

RAPE CRISIS CENTER

Counseling/Latina Services Coordinator. provide individual and group counseling, coordinate volunteer counselors, network w/Latina community. Bilingual (Spanish), 2 years counseling experience, experience in women's issues and volunteer programs required. \$21-\$23K. Resume and cover letter to BARCC, 99 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge, MA 02139. EOE/AA.

Personal care attendants for disabled lesbian art therapist. Alternate weekends Fri. 8am-Mon. 8am (72 hrs) \$325/wknd or Wed. 8am-Fri 8am (48hrs.) \$200/wk clear. Non smoking, woman pref. Must have a drivers' license, be a light sleeper and able to lift. 1 yr commitment. Will train. T accessible location. (617) 524-0921. (38)

Des Moines, IA - Quaker peace and justice organization seeking senior-level community organizer. Candidate must be experienced in organizing, program development, fundraising, budget management and supervision. Affirmative action employer. Candidates from any of these AA groups encouraged to apply: people of color, women, lesbians/gays/bisexuals and persons with disabilities. Write/call for job description and application form. American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), 4211 Grand Ave. Des Moines, IA 50312. Phone (515) 274-4851

DYKES WHO DO LAWNS

Lesbian looking for gardening and lawn help. West Somerville location. \$8/hr. Call 776-4144. (38)

EARN COMMISSIONS referring clients to us. We advance funds to PWA's in return for their life insurance benefits. American National Investors Corp. 1-800-594-2168. (40)

CRUISE SHIP JOBS

Hiring - \$2000+/mo. Summer/year round. Bartenders, Casino workers, Gift shop sales, Tour guides, etc. Free travel. Hawaii, Caribbean, Bahamas, Europe. No exp. necessary. 1-206-736-7000 ext. 5449N6 (44)

Staff Organizer/Bookkeeper: New England War Tax Resistance seeks a tax resister available to work flexible 15 hours a week. Organizing and bookkeeping experience important; car and space for a file cabinet desirable. Resumes by June 8 to Meg Wichser, 5 Cincord Ave. #2, Cambridge, MA 02138 (43)

Executive Director wanted for progressive grant-making foundation with an annual budget of \$900,000. Responsibilities: fundraising, board development, and staff management. Required: five years experience in fundraising, staff supervision, and budgeting; commitment to grassroots social change. Salary \$35,000-\$40,000 plus generous benefits and moving expenses. Application deadline September 1st. Write for application kit. Search Committee, Haymarket Peole's Fund, 42 Seaverns Ave, Boston, MA 02130. People of color strongly encouraged to apply. (42)

\$800 weekly Possible! Working at home! 37 different opportunities. Rush \$1 and self-addressed stamped envelope to: Harvey Council, H-125 Blake St., Hyde Park, MA 02136

DOCTOR WANTED

LOOKING FOR A DOCTOR

Male doctor wanted to accept blind GWM, 44, with cerebral palsy as patient. I am looking for a personal physician, have Medicare, Medicaid. 262-6632. (20.1)

VOLUNTEERS

GCN NEEDS YOUR HELP.

GCN began as a volunteer run organization, and we still depend heavily on volunteers. In fact, our survival now depends on more people-power! To find out how you can get involved, call 426-4469

and ask for a volunteer information package. This will give you a better sense of how our office works and the type of help we need. Below are some critical ways to get involved right away.

MARGARET FULLER NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE, INC.

Spend a few hours each week helping a parent who needs emotional support. Training and reimbursement provided. Call 547-2371

DO YOU HAVE A CLASS 2 LICENSE?

Help GCN celebrate Pride '92 by driving the GCN/MAC float. Call Laura, 426-4469.

PLAN A BENEFIT

Enter the thrilling world of events planning. Gain valuable experience while mobilizing the community to support GCN.

PURSUE PROOFREADING

GCN always needs diligent readers to make sure no typos make their way into publication. Are you good at catching errors? This job might provide unique satisfaction for you. Proofing happens on Weds. and Thurs. night every other week. Call for details.

FOR SALE

"TAKE A STAND FOR SEXUAL LIBERATION! SUPPORT GAY RIGHTS!" t-shirts w/pink triangle underneath (S-XL) \$12.00, 2 for \$20.00. Freedom Alliance, P.O. Box 240915, Apple Valley, MN 55124. (30)

JAMAICA PLAIN-EXEL. COND. \$107,500 Charming turn of the century single; 6 1/2 rms; sparkling hwd flrs; lg. eat-in kit. newer systems and roof; flower garden; close to T; friendly neighborhood. Owner 524-5395. (38)

APARTMENTS

EAST BOSTON

East Boston 1 Bedroom apartment with office, living room, kitchen and 2 baths. Newly renovated, on T line. \$900/month includes utilities. Call 567-7532

SUNNY VICTORIAN, BRIGHTON

Furnished room in spacious house with lesbian professional couple and 4yo son. W/D, near T. \$375/month or exchange 15 hours childcare and household help for room and board. 254-5929. (42)

Rental N.H. Hampstead, Quiet, in-law apartment, 4 rooms, walk to the beach, 20 minutes to 495 or 93. Off street parking. No pets. \$590+ first and security. (603) 329-6161. (42)

For rent. Safe Dorchester Neighborhood. 3-bedroom apt. in restored Victorian. Modern bath, spacious kitchen, dining room, built-in china cabinet, finished wood floors, laundry room, deck, Oriental garden. \$885 plus utilities. Call Pat, 825-8048. (43)

SOMERVILLE-DAVIS/PORTER SQ.

Beautiful 2 poss. 3 BR in woman-owned/occ. house. Hwd flrs, orig. moldings, fireplace, yd. w/d and storage in basement. \$800. 666-0403. (36)

Medford garages for rent. Also 6 large rooms, 3 bdms and garage near T, enclosed front porch. Hot water, no fee \$650. 396-5639. (40)

2nd floor for rent \$550, 2 bdrm, quiet neighborhood. near Rte. 24 & 495. Call (508) 238-0872 after 6pm. (38)

Fort Hill - \$500, all utilities paid. Studio apt., hwd floors, eat-in kitchen, on safe and friendly street. Newly remodeled. 445-2013. (38)

3 BDRM - PONDSIDE JP

Sunny, spacious apartment in lesbian-owned/occupied 2-family house. Quiet, safe neighborhood, blks to Pond and Arboretum. Hardwood. Hardwood floors, porches, washer/dryer available. Fenced yard- dogs okay. Available August 1st. \$875/mo. Call 522-5529 (42)

HOUSING WANTED

FALL SEMESTER 1992

Graduate student/professional lesbian couple and well-behaved dog seek house of flat to sublet for fall. Cambridge (Harvard Sq.) preferred, rent negotiable (617) 552-3695. (42)

ROOMMATES

JP - 3 MIN. TO ARBORETUM

LF 41 seeks friendly, independent roommate for sunny JP apt. 3rd floor, porch, wash mach. Sorry, no pets. \$275+. Open to temporary housemate or part-time arrangement for out-of-town commuter. 522-2240. (32)

Try GCN's Guaranteed Roommate Ad

All roommate and housemate ads that are prepaid for two weeks will run until you find a roommate.

Ads are *not* automatically renewed. You must call in every additional week you want the ad to run. Phone calls for renewals will be accepted on Fridays until 3 pm. 426-4469.

JAMAICA PLAIN

LF seeks LF/BiF to share spacious, sunny 2BR near Arboretum, Pond and T. LR, DR, Eat-in-kitchen, extra guest rm/study, 2 porches, lots of light. \$350+, Available now. 522-2558 (42)

Trees, view, breezes, sundeck, skylights, offstreet parking. Quiet neighborhood near subway, expressway, beach. Drugfree women and gay house. Roomy studio \$515, including everything. 436-2583

2M seek 3rd person to share cozy 3BR apt. in Davis Sq. Somerville. 3 min. walk to T. Looking for quiet nonsmkr. \$317+. Al, 536-6503 or 623-2897. Available now.

Roslindale - 2 apt.s very near T and Square \$525, less \$30 on time payment. Refrigerator, tile bath, owner-occupied, washer, sundeck, nice yard. 325-7430.

Jamaica Plain, 2Bdrm, 51/2 rm apt. w/porches, very close to Orange and Green lines. \$530 plus heat. Ref. required, 524-4028

JP NEAR ABORETUM

2 LFs seek 3rd. Spacious apt. near T, pkg, w/d, share food, smoke-free, no more pets. \$308+util. July 1st., 524-6839

3LF seek 4th for spacious Belmont house. Hwd floors, fireplace, bus line. 25+, friendly, independent, no smoking, no drugs. \$303.75+. Sara or Sandy, 484-8527. Available June 1. (40)

SHARE JP HOUSE

with veg LF 40's and cat, w/d, yd. No smoke, drugs. \$600+ 1/2 util. 522-7661. (40)

LAUGHTER AND POPCORN

Openings for 2 LFs in ecofeminist semi-coop near Davis Sq. Porches, yard, w/d. Smoke, drug and pet-free. Min. alc. Call 628-0878, 623-0703. Avail. now. (44)

JP - PONDSIDE - MAY 1

LF & Bi F seek Lf or BiF for 3 bedroom apt. to share respectful home. Semi-coop. Quiet street near T. Porch, hardwood floors, piano. \$300 + low utilities. No more pets. 524-5933.

DAVIS SQ. - SOMERVILLE

Two lesbians & cat seek woman to share sunny, spacious, 3 bdrm apt. Steps to T. w/d, yard. Alcohol/drug-free space. Rent \$375+. 666-9644. (40)

MEDFORD

L seeks 2F or lesbian couple to share house. Laundry, no pets or smoking. Safe neighborhood near Tufts. \$250 + util. each. 396-1074. (38)

COMFY 3 BDR HSE/ MEDFORD SQ

1/l couple to share 2 flrs., drvwy, w/d, cable, porch & big yard! Pets ok. No smk/drugs. Avail. now. Sublet poss. \$370 inc. util. 391-7796.

A GREAT HOME FOR \$75

Melrose: Small furnished room w/skylight in large, updated, fine Victorian home. Central air, washer/dryer, offstreet parking, cable, deck, gardens, and many extras. Enjoy the quiet, security, spaciousness of the suburbs while only 17 minutes to downtown Boston from convenient T stop. Nonsmoking male. \$75 weekly including utilities. 665-6082. (42)

SOMERVILLE

Union/Porter Squares. 2F/1M seek 4th. Mixed orientation, 1 non-smoking, mostly veggie, mid-20s-30s, semi-coop/independent. Spacious clean, w/d, porches, garden. Cat. Buses. Available June 1 (sublet or longterm). \$310 (negotiable). 623-7595. (42)

WATERTOWN SQUARE

LF acupuncturist student seeks woman to share apt. on river, 2 blocks from Watertown Sq., buses, etc., close to pike. Canoe in basement, outdoor pool down the block. \$337 +. 924-1317

3LF seek nonsmk F for sunny rm in lovely apt. in JP W/D. dishshr. Near bus, T, Arboretum. \$290 includes all. 522-6266. (32)

BROOKLINE VILLAGE

LF seeks nonsmoking roommate for first floor of 2BR house. Hardwood floors, dining room, kitchen, living room, porches, yard, piano, washer. Near buses and T. No pets. \$482+. Quiet street. Avail. Sept. 1. 730-9948 (45)

ARLINGTON

LF & F seek F with sense of humor for large sunny apt., w/d, porches, fireplace, pkg., near T. Quiet, no smike, min. drugs/alc. \$310+. 648-4107, 648-8245 (30)

HAVE YOU GOT THE FEVER?

or are you just hot? Why write not a personal and prove it? \$10 buys you 10 weeks to see if anyone else thinks so. For a limited time, your personal can appear five times (ten weeks) for only \$10. See form on page 12 for details.

EAST ARLINGTON—WALK TO T

2 lesbians plus cat seek lesbian 25+ to share our home. Good communication, sense of humor, open to racial diversity. No smoke, drugs, minimum alcohol. Beautiful, spacious apartment. \$340+, 643-2426. (40)

WEST OF BOSTON

LF + dog seeks m/F to share home in country setting. 25 min. to Boston. Lg. yard, deck, pkg., W/D, DW, fireplace, mod. kitchen. 2 private rooms + bath. No smokers. \$450+. Call (508) 655-2623. (30)

SOMERVILLE

3rd sought by 2 plus cat, 3rd flr. Quaintly beautiful large apt., 100 years old. Wood floors, laundry, clawfoot tub, big porch. Btwn Davis and Union Squares. Quick bus to Davis, Kendall, Lechmere and other T. Clean but relaxed. Good neighborhood, easy parking. We smoke. \$325+. Rachel, Chris or Jenny 776-2811.

3 LF, LARGE HOUSE, JP, SK 4TH

Independent, cooperative household with a sense of humor, a cat, low rent, near Ts and progressive politics seek LF, 27+, non-smoker, minimal alcohol, experience with group living. 522-7572. (29)

HARVARD SQUARE AREA

LF seeks 25+ LF, Bi or SF to share 2 bedroom apt. 5 min from Harvard Square. W/D and fireplace. No smoking. \$337.50 utilities included. Call 864-6609

Jamaica Plain. Newly renovated one-bedroom apt in 3-family. Enclosed porch, w/w carpet, lots of skylights. 492-4304 (49)

Professional gay male seeks same to share 2BR in Jamaica Plain. Fully equipped, large, all oak, eat-in kitchen, pantry, W/D, porch, yard, ceiling fans, new windows, fresh paint, refinished wood floors, one block from orange line. No pets, drugs, parties. Available 2/1. 731-2205. NO FEE. (27)

MEDFORD

Quiet 2Bdrm. apt. to share, w/d, walk to T. \$300 plu util./mo. 396-5418, 6-8pm. (40)

FEMALE HOUSEMATE

DAVIS SQ (NEAR RED LINE/TUFTS)

Three women (womanist, of varied ages and sexual orientations) seek woman for our sunny, spacious, two floor apartment. Friendly, independent, quiet, homey. Next to laundromat, stores, park. Chem-free. \$300+ utilities, 2 phones, 666-2851, 628-7687. (40)

ROOMMATE NEEDED

2 L's seek 3rd for beautiful J.P. apt. Porch, w/d, short walk to orange line, green line, pond. Available June 1st or earlier. \$316+. 524-8672. (42)

FRIENDLY HOME-SOMERVILLE

2LFs and dogs seek 1LF to share house in Davis Sq. Yard, walk to T. Short- or long-term. No smoke/drugs, minimum alcohol. \$350+. 776-6612. (27)

BIG HOUSE

2 LFs seek 3rd for 3 flr rent controlled house in Cambridgeport. Parking, yard, near T. Bdrm and study for \$286/mo. 661-6771 eves. (hrs)

LOVELY CONVENIENT SPLIT RANCH

3LF and 2 cats (no more please) seek fourth. Suburb, 5 min. to Tufts, 10 to Davis Sq. and Cambridge, near Rt. 93. Lovely 2 1/2 bath home, huge yard, gardens, patio, all amenities, fireplace, storage, parking, separate phone line. Non smoker, 30+ desired. \$300+, security. Available immediately. 729-8438.

QUIET COUNTRY RURAL LIVING.

SLF crafts-person seeks roommate, to occupy furnished room, shared kitchen/bath and washer/dryer. Vegetarian preferred, no smoking, no drugs, pets negotiable. 55 minutes north of Boston. 15 minutes to commuter rail. (603) 432-1081. Anytime. (28)

TEELE SQUARE, SOMERVILLE

3 lesbians seek 4th womanist/feminist to share the fun and frustration of creating a home community. Feb. \$275+ 628-7604 (28)

MAKING A HOME IN EAST ARLINGTON

1 friendly considerate LF seeks 1-2 LF's for really nice, spacious 3-bedroom. Convenient to T. Off street parking. Wood floors, sunny, porches, yard, basement laundry. Own phone line(s). Petless, smokeless. \$385+util. Call 648-0970. (30)

MEDFORD

Lesbian looking for housemate for large 2-BR apartment. Near Tufts, T, laundry, dogs okay. \$350 plus util. Loren 391-1084. (32)

NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Seeking woman to share townhouse Exit 8. Sunny, large bedroom/closet, washer/dryer fireplace, dishwasher, some storage. Friendly independent environment. No smoking. \$290+utilities. (603) 886-9445. (32)

ON STREET W/DIVERSITY

GM 40 seeking non-smoker in large sunny flat on 2nd floor. Washer/dryer \$400 includes utils. 524-0095 Near T. (32)

Wakefield 3 bed 2 bath contemporary DW, W&D, cable, parking. Near 128 & 93. \$400.00 mo. includes utilities. Dennis 246-1905. (32)

NORTH CAMBRIDGE

LF seeks F for beautiful, very sunny 2 BR. Friendly, quiet, no smoke, min. drugs/alc. Hrdwd floors, porches, deck, large yard. \$375+, poss. negotiable. 661-8957 (28)

2ND AND 3RD FLOOR IN E. ARLINGTON

2LFs seek 3rd for spacious, sunny 3BR. Yard, porches, laundry, off-street parking, own phone line. No smk/pets. \$400 + util. Call 648-0970 or 648-1724.

NASHUA NH AREA

GWF, 33 sks same or GWM to share twnhse. Must like cats but no more plse. Lg BR, some

storage, w/d, deck. \$350 + util. 503-595-2308.

JAMAICA PLAIN

3LF seek LF for spacious house close to Centre street and T. No smoking, no pets. \$300+utilities. 522-8235.

Somerville: Very clean, quiet, private GM, seeks M/F for beautiful apt. No pets, smoke, or drugs. Light cooking preferred, foreign coll. students welcome. \$300.00/mo. plus util. Details? call 625-9438 A.M.

SPACIOUS JAMAICA PLAIN APT.

Looking for two people to share fabulous 3 BR apt. Lots of great features, good location. Near T, 39 bus, Pond. Excellent rent \$300 +. Available May 1. 524-7767.

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Social/Organization/ Business index, voice mail, FAX. Free listing. Indicate any or all three for details: SASE to The Meeting Room, Suite 600, Dept. G, 40760 Garfield, Mt. Clemens, MI 48044 FAX: (313) 792-5620 (43)

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PUBLICATIONS

WOMAN OF POWER

Woman of Power: A Magazine of Feminism, Spirituality, and Politics, an inspiring, thought-provoking, and visually stunning quarterly publication. Features feminist visionaries and activists in articles, interviews, artwork, photography. Each issue explores a central theme such as "The Living Earth," "Sacred Spaces," "Leadership," "Relationships," "Creative Arts." Subscriptions: \$26/year U.S.; single issue \$8; write for Canadian and overseas rates. *Woman of Power*, PO Box 2785, Orleans, MA 02653.

OFF OUR BACKS

Lively, down-to-earth feminism in the nation's oldest women's newsjournal. Analysis, reviews, conference coverage, and news-on health, feminist theory, reproductive rights, civil rights and political work among working, disabled, incarcerated, old and poor women, women of color, lesbians and women from every continent \$15/11 issues

LOVE BOYS?

NAMBLA seeks justice for men and boys interested in consensual relationships. Our monthly Bulletin features news, fiction, letters, art. Confidential mailing list. \$25/year. NAMBLA, POB 174, New York, NY 10018. (44)

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WOMEN'S REVIEW OF BOOKS

Monthly review of current feminist writing. Since 1983. Our readers span the U.S., Canada, and abroad. Subscriptions: \$15/U.S., \$18/Canada. \$25/institutions. Free sample on request. THE WOMEN'S REVIEW, Wellesley Women's Research Center, Wellesley, MA 02181.(ex)

LESBIAN CONTRADICTION

A Journal of Irreverent Feminism. Quarterly of commentary, analysis, reviews, cartoons & humor by and for women who are political, open-minded and eager for dialogue. Sample \$1.50 sub. \$6 more if/less if. LesCon, 584 Castro, No. 236G, SF, CA 94114. (20.35)

BROOMSTICK

A quarterly national feminist political journal by, for, and about women over forty. 3543 18th St. #3, San Francisco, CA 94110. Yearly subscriptions: U.S. : \$15, Canada, \$20, (U.S. funds). Overseas and Institutions \$25. Sample copy \$5. Free to incarcerated women over forty.

QUEER MONEY

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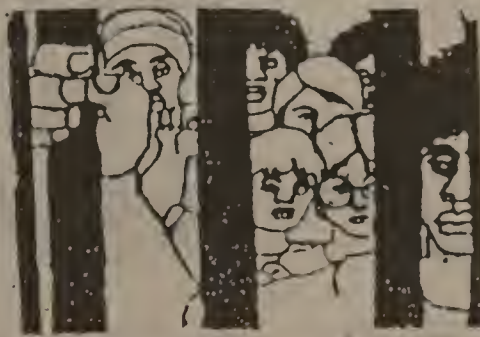
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PRISONERS SEEKING FRIENDS

WOMEN

Aries lady w/long, br. hair, deep gm. eyes, 5'9, 160#, toned & tan. I enjoy music, dancing, candlelight dinners and baths. Motorcycles & outdoor activities. Looking for a woman who seeks the ideal soulmate. Take a chance! Write: Katina Fayne #4738-206, Kentucky Correctional Institute for Women, PeeWee Valley, KY 40056

My nickname is Gucci Baby, 24, 154#, like dancing, travel, dressing up & looking good. Enjoy making good love & have an opening in my heart for someone special. Please write: Gloria Griffin #328979, Broward Correctional Institution, P. O. Box 8540, Pembroke Pine, FL 33024

I'm a 28 y. o. Black female, brown eyes, dimples, 5'4", 165# and very attractive. Kind-hearted, honest, open, looking for that someone special to help me out. Hobbies incl. camping, boating, horseback riding, romantic evenings. Waiting on you. Bridget Smith #216338, 38 Fourth St., C-46, Goldwater, MI 49036

Ebony goddess, slim, sweet, honey smooth brown skin, long, slender legs, nice beachball butt. Doe-brown eyes, long black hair, 36C. Serious-minded only please. Michel Stokes, P. O. Box 710, Keen Mountain, VA 24624

I am a Gemini(May 22), will write to all who answer. Black, 5'4", 180#, brown eyes, nice to look at. Will be down until March '93. Please write to: Candice Harris Womack #09036-075, 3301 Leestown Rd Ren., Lexington, KY 40511

I'm 32, presently doing time in MA. I'm 5'6", 135# of pure woman, looking for v. masc. Black men or petite ladies to write to. I'm a bisexual Italian woman able to please & in need of pleasing. Please reply to: Donna Giangrande, Box 9007, Framingham, MA 01701-9007

Ultimately attractive, cultured & conversant post-op TS, 35, 150#, 5'11" w/long auburn hair, sexy green eyes, looking to meet phys. attr., intel. person to build quality friendship. Please send descriptive letter & photo for same. Teri Ann Meitinger, #26169-037 Unit Ren, 3301 Leestown Rd, Lexington KY 40511-8799

MEN

Hoping to find a few penpals to write to; very lonely & lost contact with friends. I'm 28, 6'4", 180#, br/bl, like writing, drawing, poetry, outdoors. Please write: Thomas R. Boyer, Jr. #191-544 R. C. I. -H, 18701 Roxbury Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21746

My name is Johnny, 33, 189#, 5'9", Scorpio. Like dancing, exercising, sailing, nudism. Would love to write someone from the outside. Photo appreciated. Johnny McCree, AE-30, #406244, Baker Correctional Institution, P. O. Box 500, Olustee, FL 32072

I'm an inmate in MS State Pen., looking for friends willing to keep in touch. I'm 25, bl/bl, 5'7" 140#, prefer dominant, older gentleman. Nice body, outgoing, sincere and lonely. Please write: Clay Earnest, Unit 28, #78417, Parchman, MS 38738

Black, openly gay, would like to hear from all gays lesbians on the outside who might want to write this lonely guy. Thanks! John "Boojack" Royal #117208, Mecklenburg Correctional Center, P. O. Box 500, Bottdon, VA 23917

Black Colorado inmate, 35, seeking honest, sincere white male to write to. Please send photo. David McBride #47126, P. O. Box 600, Canon City, CO 81215-0600

I am a 45 y. o GWM TV looking for penpals and friendship. 5'10", br/br, will answer all but prefer older, masc. gentleman to complement this old queen. Enjoy writing, politics, outdoors, hunting & fishing, etc. Be sincere and write soon please! William Walter Perry III, ADC 79761, Barracks 14, P. O. Box 500, Grady, AR 71644-0500

GWM 19, br/bl, 123#, hung, seeking older GWM interested in being my Daddy, friend and lover on a long-term basis. I'm young but I know what my heart desires. Sincere, serious-minded only, please. Dennis John Davis #4761807, Oregon State Penitentiary, 2505 State Street, Salem, OR 97310-0505

Latino Nationalist, 175#, 5'9", black hair. Loving, considerate, outgoing. Looking for same qualities in that special someone I know is out there somewhere. All replies answered. Carlos Ruiz #33565, P. O. Box 607, Carson City, NV 89702

Native of Dallas, 28, currently serving 15 yrs. ;determined, athletic, mentally and physically strong, 180#, 5'9". Seeking somebody who enjoys kissing, hugging and *****;looks, age unimportant. Be real and dominant, looking to form understanding partnership. Thanks. Morris L. Smith #562552, P. O. Box 16, Lovelady, TX 75851

Gay male in need of friendship: 6', 180#, br/hzl, 24 y. o. Seek someone who is a good sport, likes to have fun and enjoys being with the one they love. Looking for a white male 20-40's. Please write: Robert White #92520, P. O. Box 300, H. C. 62 BK6, Calico Rock, AR 72519

GWM, age 20, down for a short time here in Utah and no gay friends around. Need other gay friends to write and maybe form a lasting relationship. Please write: Andrew Johnston, Sanpete Co. Jail, Manti, UT 84642

I'm looking for a long-term relationship with a gay male 25-45. This Black male, 24, 5'8", 165#, light-complected, enjoys basketball, dancing, fishing and roller skating among other things. Write: Lamont Foster-Bay #165631, 1576 W. Bluewater Highway, Ionia, MI 48846

Wanted: someone to help me understand this newfound feeling. White male, 34, 6', 174#, exc. health. Intelligent, artistic, full body tattoo, ex-biker for now. Into camping, travel, crafts. Having trouble figuring things out. Please write: Leo W. Cover #445427, P. O. Box 16, Lovelady, TX 75851

Bi male, 36, masculine. Life-sentenced and not getting any younger. Desires correspondence on instructions for T'ai Chi yogic exercise, the long and short form. David C. Raymond #93481, Magnolia-1, LA State Prison, Angola, LA 70712

Good-looking Black, light complexion, 29, 6', 185#, fun-loving, largely endowed, would like to hear from anyone who is serious, easy-going and not into games. Race and age not important. Let's make it happen. Justin Black #AY9831, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612-1286

GWM 23, looking for loving, warm, understanding person to become one with in such a manner as no one has known before. Hope to be released in '93 or '94. Keith Lambert #095045, F. S. P., P. O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091

African-American male prisoner seeks correspondence, long-term relations. William J. Berry #23739, P. O. Box 1989, Ely, NV 89301

I am presently doing time and interested in meeting or writing to people from the outside. I am a Black male, 35 y. o. Race not important, please write: T. Beckham #C69941, C-7-203, P. O. Box 29, Represa, CA 95671

Incarcerated GWM, 25, 6', 180#, bl/bl, college student, shy, sincere. Looking for older man for correspondence and more. Write to: Scott Mitchell #229095/AA, P. O. Box 740, London, OH 43140-0740

I am a lonely inmate doing lonely time and I would like to write individuals who are open-minded, sincere and with a good sense of humor. I'm 6'2", 195#, br/br, and would like a friend. Michael Pissos #242596, P. O. Box 4571, Lima, OH 45802

GWM, 20, HIV+, healthy, 5'8", 129#, br/br, presently incarcerated in Missouri, to be released in '93, looking for a Daddy for sex, sports and good times, hopefully leading to something long-term. Jimmy Boudreau #176169, Missouri State Penitentiary, P. O. Box 900, Jefferson City, MO 65102

GWM 36, seeks penpal for life. I am 5'8", 160#, br/bl, like horses, music, bowling, romantic nights, and honesty. Will answer all, hope to hear from ya! Gerald Blanton #164068, 2-C-21, Farmington Correctional Center, 1012 W. Columbia, Farmington, MO 63640

23 y. o. BWM seeks 40+ women to exchange letters. I'm 5'9", 138#, br/bl, love writing poetry, drawing, horses, swimming, camping and Harleys. Will write all. Bryan Forister #164354, 2-

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Calendar

8 MONDAY

New York, NY ♦ Craig Carnelia: benefit appearance for People w/AIDS Coalition. 8pm at The Ballroom, 253 W. 28th St. \$20 + 2-drink min. Info: (212) 532-0290; res: (212) 244-3005.

Cambridge ♦ R2N2: Reproductive Rights Nat'l Network. 6:45-9:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Also June 22. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ *Stand-Up Tragedy*, play about life in an inner-city school. By SpeakEasy Stage Co., at Bos. Ctr. for the Arts, 539 Tremont. Thurs.-Sat. 8pm, Sun. 3pm. Thru June 21. \$14/Bostix. Info: 837-6207.

9 TUESDAY

New York, NY ♦ *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me*, off-broadway premiere, Perry St. Theater, 31 Perry St., 8:30pm. Opens June 22. Info: (212) 691-2509.

Boston ♦ AIDS Healing Service, Temple Israel, Longwood Ave./Plymouth St., 7:30pm. Interpreted, partially accessible Info:566-3960.

Cincinnati, OH ♦ Cincinnati Gay/Lesb. March Activists: Justice Watch meeting, 7:30pm, Comm. Church on Dayton St. Info: (513) 541-6860.

New York, NY ♦ Join Elizabeth Holtzman in honoring Tom Duane, Ellen Carton, Paula Ettlebrick, Jean Sidebottom & Sappho's Isle. 5pm, Comptroller's Executive Board Rm., Municipal Bldg., 5th Fl., One Centre St. Reservations: (212) 669-3089.

Cambridge ♦ *Living and Losses*, led by therapist Vera Cohen. 7-8:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Also June 22. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Newton ♦ Lesb. school teachers/administrators potluck, 6:30pm. Info: 244-5029.

10 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ *Stand-Up Tragedy* discount youth matinee. See June 8 listing.

Cambridge ♦ DOB 35+/- rap, 8pm., Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., \$1 donation. Info: 661-3633.

Boston ♦ *Housing Options & Access to Subsidies*. AIDS Action Comm. speakers. 6-8pm, Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon, 7th fl. Free. Info: 236-1012.

New York, NY ♦ Managing HIV Infection: Nursing Solutions, 11am-7pm. Spons. by Nat'l League for Nursing & AIDS Treatment Data Network. \$125 incl. lunch, dinner, CEU credit fees. Pre-reg. required: (212) 925-3805.

11 THURSDAY

Dorchester ♦ Dorchester Gay/Lesb. Alliance monthly business mtg. at Geiber-Gibson Health Ctr. in So. Boston, 7pm. Info: 825-3737.

Washington, DC ♦ *Legal Documents Every Lesbian Should Have*, by Mautner Project for Lesb. w/cancer. 6pm, 1325 G St NW, lower level. Accessible.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Cancer Support Group, 7-9pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Portland, ME ♦ *Myths & Realities of Bisexuality*. Rines Auditorium, Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., 7:30-9pm. Accessible./signed. (207) 657-2850.

Boston ♦ *You Gotta Keep on Dancin'*, african-american gay male tale, at Boston Ctr. for the Arts, 541 Tremont St., 8pm. Party 10pm-1am. Tix \$9.25 adv./\$11.25 door. Info/interp./access: 433-7037.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Writing Group, 7-9pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ BAGLY Alumni Assn. 1st mtg, 7:30pm at Arlington St. Church. Info: 1-800-42-BAGLY, x3006.

Boston ♦ Treating Oral/Dental Problems of PWAs/HIV+. 7-9pm, 2nd fl., John Hancock Conf. Ctr., 40 Trinity Pl. (at Stuart). Free. Partially accessible. Interp. upon request. Info: 236-1012.

Boston ♦ Networking Party spons. by Greater Boston Business Council. Top of the Hub, Prudential Bldg, 5pm. \$4 guests/\$2 members. Info: 446-7872.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbians Choosing Children Network, 7:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Portsmouth, NH ♦ New games night, spons. by Lesbians within the Seacoast Area. 6:30pm, JFK Ctr., Parrot Ave. Info: (603) 659-2139.

Boston ♦ *Reckless*, absurdist drama by Craig Lucas, presented by the New Theater. At First & Second Church, 66 Marlborough St. 8pm. \$8-10. Thru 13th. Res./info: 247-7388.

12 FRIDAY JN

Boston ♦ *You Gotta Keep on Dancin'*, 7pm. See June 11 listing.

Brookline ♦ Am Tikva Annual Gay/Les./Bi Seder. Bring something for the oneg. Temple Sinai school bldg., 50 Sewall Ave. Accessible. Info: 926-2536.

Boston ♦ Boston Gay Men's Chorus. Cocktails 6pm, dinner 7pm, concert 8:30pm, party 'til 1:30am. \$35, or \$15 concert/party only. At Park Plaza's Imperial Ballroom. Info: 247-BGMC.

Haverhill ♦ Lucie Blue Tremblay, Erica Wheeler, 8pm, New Moon Coffeehouse, Unitarian Universalist Church, Rtes. 110 & 125. \$12. Info: (508) 373-9259.

Cambridge ♦ Folk/rock: Laura Wood & McDonnell-Tane at Christopher's, 1920 Mass. Ave. Info: 396-3758.

Boston ♦ Lesb./Gay Pride Harbor Cruise. The Cape Anne, 28 Northern Ave. \$15 (advance sug.) Not accessible. Info/time: 262-3149.

Cambridge ♦ Homotown hop! With Swingin' Suedines. 9pm-1am. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. \$5. Spons. by Camb. Lavender Alliance. Info: 868-1693.

Boston ♦ Tee Corrine booksigning at Glad Day Bookshop, 673 Boylston St., 4pm. Info: 267-3010.

Boston ♦ BiFest 1992 begins w/dinner at Mississippi's, 735 Huntington Ave, 5:30pm. Info: 247-6683.

Boston ♦ Movies w/bisexual characters, & erotic storytelling, spons. by BiFest 1992. At Mass. College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., 7-11:30pm. 247-6683.

Boston ♦ *The Untitled Show*, invitational group exhibition, at CRI/New England, 338 Newbury St., 3rd Fl. Accessible. Thru 27th. Info: 325-SPIL.

Attleboro ♦ Triboro Triangles potluck/video at Larson Ctr., 25 S. Main St., 7pm. Info: (508) 223-4636.

13 SATURDAY

Boston ♦ 22nd Annual Boston Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade and Rally. Rally & kick-off at City Hall Plaza 10:30-noon, Boston Common rally 2-4:30pm. Accessible. Interpreted. Info: 262-3149.

Boston ♦ GLISTEN (Gay/Lesb. School Teachers' Network) at Gay Pride. Meet Gov't Ctr. between 10:30am-noon, look for banner. Info: 696-8347.

Cambridge ♦ Amethyst Women's Gay Pride Dance. 9pm-1am. \$5. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. Info: 661-3633.

New York, NY ♦ Las Buenas Amigas Latina Lesbians & Bronx Lesbians United in Sisterhood Party at The Center, 208 W. 13th St. (between 7th & 8th Aves.) 8pm-1am. \$8/door. Info: (201) 868-7816.

New York, NY ♦ Concert to benefit Gay Games IV, with Ferron, Barbara Higbie, Teresa Trull, Toshi Reagon, Kisa Kron. Town Hall, 123 W. 43rd St., 7:30pm. Access., interp. Info: (212) 633-9494.

Boston ♦ Reception honoring Lucie Blue Tremblay, to benefit Pride Committee. 7:30pm buffet. Info/location: 262-3149.

Boston ♦ Patsy Meets Godzilla: join Gays for Patsy for 2-step/line dance at dinosaur exhibit at World Trade Ctr. 8pm-1am. \$18/door. Info: (603) 669-0096.

Boston ♦ New England Gay/Lesb./Bi Veterans march at Gay Pride. Assemble 10:30am; uniforms encouraged. Info: 723-8127.

Norton ♦ Triboro Triangles Pride Dance at Queen of Hearts Club, 4 Bay Rd., Norton. \$3. Info: (508) 223-4636.

Cambridge ♦ Cambridge Int'l Fair, 11am-8pm at University Park, Central Sq. Info: 349-4380.

Boston ♦ "Celebration of Pride," at Arlington St. Church, corner Arlington & Boylston. Free. Info: 262-5752.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Wellness Day. Camb. Ctr. for Adult Ed., 56 Brattle St., 10am-4:30pm. \$65. Info: 547-6979.

Cincinnati, OH ♦ Pride Day Parade: 11am begins at City Hall, 12:30pm Fountain Sq. Rally, 1:30pm continues to The Dock for Pride Fest. (513) 751-7659.

Cincinnati, OH ♦ Cincinnati Men's Chorus, 8pm, Withrow High School on Madison Road. Info: (513) 751-7659.

Cambridge ♦ Finding & Surviving the Workplace, 11am-1pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ Boston Bisexual Women's Network pre-Pride brunch at Comm. Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St. Info: 247-6683.

Cambridge ♦ Pride Brunch, 10:30am at Cambridge City Hall with Camb. Lavender Alliance and Mayor Kenneth Reeves. Music & comedy. Depart 11:30 for Boston Pride March. Info: 876-3874.

Boston ♦ Pride Day Interfaith Service, St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St, 9:30am. Info: 232-2108.

Boston ♦ Join Am Tikva at the Pride March. Meet at steaming tea kettle at Gov't Ctr., 11:30am. Look for banner.

Boston ♦ Biversity meets to march in Gay Pride under steaming kettle at Gov't Ctr, 11:30am.

Burlington ♦ Doshie Powers & Toto, Listening Place Coffeehouse, St. Margaret's Parish Hall, Winn St., 8pm. Info: (508) 264-0668.

Cambridge ♦ DOB singles' rap: "Being Single at Pride," 7pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., \$1. Info: 661-3633.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Writing Group, 12:30-2:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Meet at NH Park & Ride on Rt. 101 at 9:30am to attend Boston Gay Pride.

14 SUNDAY

New York, NY ♦ Latin American Film Fest, gay segment, City Cinema East. St. Playhouse, 52 W. 8th st., East of 6th Ave., 7pm. Info: (201) 868-7816.

Cambridge ♦ DOB welcomes newcomers, 1-3pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., \$1 donation. Info: 661-3633.

Boston ♦ Booksigning party for "Closer to Home: Bisexuality and Feminism." Glad Day Bookshop, 4-6pm.

Boston ♦ Bicycling Lesbians Around Boston (BLAB) 20-mile ride. 868-1845.

Boston ♦ Annual Pride Run, 11am, Esplanade. 2 & 5 mile runs. \$10. Spons. by Frontrunners. Register 9-10:30am. Info: 723-9244.

Cincinnati, OH ♦ Pride Week Closing Party at Shirley's, 8pm. Info: GLMA at (513) 751-7659.

Boston ♦ Gay/Lesb. Alliance of South Shore and Dorchester GALA: Pride weekend cookout, 6pm. \$3. Bring soda/chips. Info: 340-2120.

Watertown ♦ Gay/Lesb. of Watertown ice cream social. 3-6pm. \$2. Info: 926-7823.

Boston ♦ Bagel Brunch, part of BiFest 1992, at Mass. College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave, 9:30am-noon. Info: 247-6683.

Boston ♦ Workshops on bisexuality, part of Bifest 1992, 10:45am-2pm. Info/places: Biversity, 247-6683.

15 MONDAY

New York, NY ♦ Phoebe Legere & Baby Jane Dexter: benefit appearance for People w/AIDS Coalition. 8pm at The Ballroom, 253 W. 28th St. \$20 + 2-drink min. Info: (212) 532-0290; res: (212) 244-3005.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Partners/Ex-Partners of Incest Survivors, 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

16 TUESDAY

Boston ♦ Gay/Lesb. Rights Lobby Day, spons. by Coalition for Lesb./Gay Civil Rights. 12:30-2pm, 2nd Fl. Nurses Hall, State House. Focus: House Bill 3054, to remove archaic sex laws. Info: Gary, 923-9735.

Boston ♦ Gay Fathers of Greater Boston group discussion: Looking at self-esteem. Info: 742-7897.

Boston ♦ HIV+ cooking/nutrition class. 5:30-8:30pm. Fenway Comm. Health Ctr., 7 Haviland St. \$10 more/less. Regist. required: 267-0900. x287.

Boston ♦ Greater Boston Business Council's Entrepreneur's Grp. monthly b-fast mtg., Pop's Place, Copley Sq. Hotel, 8-9am. Reserv.: 247-0711.

Cambridge ♦ DOB coming out rap: "Coming Out to the Family," 8pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave., \$1 donation. Info: 661-3633.

17 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ *Supported Housing: What's on the Horizon?*. Issues for PWAs & HIV+. 6-8pm, Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon, 7th fl., Info: 236-1012.

Cambridge ♦ Ovary Action: Women's Group of Queer Nation. 8-9:45pm. Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Jamaica Plain ♦ Poets Ayida Mthembu & Maurice Anderson. Benefits Hospice of Mission Hill. 7-8:30, Firehouse Multicultural Art Center, 659 Centre Street. Info: 524-3816.

Cambridge ♦ Alternative financial strategies for women. Led by consultant Wendy Traynor. 6:30-8:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

18 THURSDAY

Somerville ♦ *Les Belles Soeurs*, by Michel Tremblay. Performance Place, 277 Broadway. 8pm Thurs-Sat, 7pm Sun. Thru July 12. \$15. Info: 965-3859.

Cambridge ♦ Incest Survivors' facil. open discussion. Topic: Memories. 7:30-9:15pm. Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ *Answers Plus*: free, confidential seminar for recently-tested HIV+. 6:30-8:30pm. Rm. 401, AAC, 131 Clarendon St. Info: Ellen, 437-6200, x281.

Boston ♦ Support group for HIV-neg gay/bi men, 7-9pm, Fenway Comm. Health Ctr., 7 Haviland St., Rm. 201. Info: 236-1012.

Cambridge ♦ DOB singles' rap: "Friends," 7pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., \$1 donation. Info: 661-3633.

19 FRIDAY

Brookline ♦ Am Tikva traditional shabbat service, Temple Sinai school bldg., 50 Sewall Ave. Bring something for the oneg. Accessible. Info: 926-2536.

Boston ♦ AIDS/safer sex for women. Fenway Comm. Health Ctr., 7 Haviland St. Childcare, access. Reserv.: Cindy, 267-0900 x222.

Boston ♦ Eric Orner publication party at Glad Day Bookshop, 673 Boylston St., 4-6pm. Info: 267-3010.

Concord, NH ♦ NH Pride March & Rally begins 7pm at Statehouse.

20 SATURDAY

Henniker, NH ♦ Gay Pride 5K Road Race at Pat's Peak, spons. by NH Lambda. Must pre-register. Info: (603) 746-3339.

Henniker, NH ♦ NH Pride Day at Pat's Peak. \$15. Evening dance \$5-\$8.

Portland OR ♦ Lesbian Pride Dance w/Music of Second Wind, buffet, cash bars. Info: (503) 223-0071.

Boston ♦ Prime Timers (older gay men) monthly mtg., 2-4pm at Lindemann Health Ctr., 25 Staniford St. "The PT Retirement Home Project." \$1. Info: 262-8685.

Boston ♦ Monthly Bi Brunch, 10:45am, Sibel's Restaurant, 100 Peterborough St. Info: 247-6683.

Chase, MD ♦ Swim for Life at Gunpowder Falls State Park. Benefits PWAs. Reg. begins 7:30am; swim begins 10am. Competitive/non-competitive. Info/pledge sheets: (410) 243-4418.

Philadelphia, PA ♦ Rock Climbing w/ Wildernes Womyn at Wissahickon Park (off Lincoln Dr.) 9am-4pm. \$35 first-timers. Pre-register: (215) 483-7937.

New York, NY ♦ Tri-State Leather Pride Night Benefit. 6-10pm at The Limelight. Info: (212) 486-5242.

Boston ♦ Am Tikva Boston Harbor cruise and picnic on George's Island. Meet by seals at Aquarium, 11am. \$5. Food assignments/gen. info: 926-2536.

Boston ♦ Edward Stein booksigning at Glad Day Bookshop, 673 Boylston St., 3-5pm. Info: 267-3010.

Cambridge ♦ Doshie Powers & Toto at Nightstage, 823 Main St. 8pm. \$6.50. Info: 497-7200.

21 SUNDAY

Concord, NH ♦ Heather Bishop children's concerts. 1pm & 3pm at Anacarico Theater. \$3-\$4. Interp. Info: CAGLR, PO Box 816, Concord 03302-0816.

New York, NY ♦ Bowling w/Las Buenas Amigas Latina Lesbians, at Bowlmor Lanes, 110 University Pl. (btw. 12th & 13th), 2pm. \$3/game. All levels. Info: 212-255-8188.

Attleboro ♦ Pride Ride with Triboro Triangles, 11am. Bikes. Info/location: (508) 223-4636.

Boston ♦ Paul Monette reads at Glad Day Bookshop, 673 Boylston St., 7pm. Info: 267-3010.

Washington, DC ♦ Walk with Mautner Project for Lesb. w/cancer at Pride Day. Meet 11am, corner New Hampshire Ave., 16th St. and U St. Info: (202) 332-5536.

Cambridge ♦ DOB runners and walkers, 10am. \$1 donation. Info/meeting place: 776-7681.

21 SUNDAY

Cambridge ♦ CASA Spanish Language Program: courses begin today. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. All levels. Wheelchair access upon req. Info: 492-8699.

22 MONDAY

Boston ♦ *Sometimes You Just Gotta Laugh*. Evening of comedy spons. by Boston NOW, w/MC Marjorie Clapprood. 7:30pm st Stitches, 967 Commonwealth Ave. \$15. Info: 782-1056.

23 TUESDAY

Boston ♦ Riders Motorcycle Club social mtg. 8pm at Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St. Free. Info: Gerard, 327-3646.

24 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ Greater Boston Business Council monthly dinner mtg, 6pm, ballroom of Back Bay Hilton, 40 Dalton St. Guest: George Slowik, Jr. of *Publisher's Weekly*. \$20 members/\$25 guests. Res. by June 22: 236-GBBC.

Boston ♦ Hospice Alternatives. for PWAs. 6-8pm, Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon, 7th fl., Info: 236-1012.

25 THURSDAY

Portsmouth, NH ♦ *PMS: Are you affected?* Spons. by Lesbians within the Seacoast Area. 6:30pm, JFK Ctr., Parrot Ave. Info: (603) 659-2139.

Portland, ME ♦ *Activist's Impressions of Cuba*. Rines Audit., Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., 7:30-9pm. Access./signed. (207) 657-2850.

Cambridge ♦ DOB Singles' rap: "Dating," 7pm. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., \$1 donation. Info: 661-3633.

Dorchester ♦ Dorchester Gay/Lesb. Alliance monthly licking, sticking, stuffing party. Gen. info, time, place: 825-3737.

Boston ♦ Gallery opening at Hooloomooloo, 222 Newbury St., 6-8pm. To benefit Greater Boston Business Council scholarship. \$25 sugg. Info: 695-8830.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Writing Group, 7-9pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Women's Cancer Support Group, 7-9pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

26 FRIDAY

Cambridge ♦ DOB 35+/- rap, 8pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., \$1 donation. Info: 661-3633.

27 SATURDAY

Cambridge ♦ Women's Writing Group, 12:30-2:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ Greater Boston Business Council monthly dinner mtg. w/guest George Slowik, Jr. \$20 members/\$25 guests. Res./info: 236-GBBC.

Boston ♦ "Gay and Lesbian Filmmakers:" open call screening at The Boston Film and Video Foundation, 1126 Boylston St. Sponsored by Blackburst Multimedia. \$5, includes reception. For more info/showtimes, call Gigi Piccillo or Suzanne Taylor, 859-1822.

SATURDAYS

Boston ♦ 40+ Lesbians. Social group sponsoring potlucks, billiards, plays, brunches, new members welcome. For more Info 891-3711, 599-4472.

Boston ♦ Prime Timers (older gay men) meets monthly. Info: 262-8685.

Cambridge ♦ Swingtime. Monthly lesbian, gay, bi swing dance with authentic big band sound. First Sat. of month. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mss. Ave. 8:15-9pm. \$6 includes refreshments. For more info 629-2219.

Boston ♦ BLOW (Boston's Leathermen On Wheels). New social club for gay motorcyclists now forming. For more info and location 783-9296.

Boston ♦ Frontrunners. Meet at Metropolitan Health Club for 2 to 5-mi. run along Charles. Lockers and showers \$1.00. 10am. Also: Tues. 11:45pm. at MHC; Wed. 6:45 pm. at Hatch Shell; Sun. 3:00pm. at Jamaica Pond Boathouse. Info: Sara 524-4025.

Boston ♦ "Two-Steppin' for AIDS." Texas Two-stepping and line dancing for the HIV positive community and their friends. At the Boston Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St., 7th fl. Third Saturdays, 7:00-12:00pm. Donations go to direct services for people with AIDS. Info: 236-1012.

Cambridge ♦ Single Mothers' Support Group. Free drop-in group with child care, alternate Saturdays. Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 11am-12:30 pm. 354-8807.

Boston ♦ Pink Flamigos. TV/TS of New England. 4 to 6 pm. 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. 247-2927.

Boston TV ♦ PrideTime—Boston G/L TV, with Bill Barnert & Cynthia Pape. 7:30 pm Boston Neighborhood Network, channels A3 and A8. Also on Cambridge Cable Channel 19, Mondays, 7 pm; and Somerville Cable Access Channel 3, Thursdays, 9 pm.

Jamalca Plain ♦ Women's Coffeehouse. Musical entertainment, usually, 8 pm. Crone's Harvest, 761 Centre St. \$5 suggested donation. 983-9530.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Couples Group, 11am-1pm last Saturday each month, Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For info: Marcia (508) 531-8670 or (617) 354-8807.

Boston ♦ Morgan Memorial Goodwill Auction, 2nd Sat. each month. Previews 9am, Auctions 10am-1pm. 1010 Harrison Ave. Free. Info: 445-1010.

Cambridge ♦ A multicultural story hour for children aged 3-8. Sponsored by FCHC and Lesbian Mothers Group. Third Sat. of every month. Info: 267-0900 ext 292.

Watertown ♦ DOB tennis, 9am, courts behind Arsenal Mall, \$1 donation. Third Sats. thru Sept. Info: 868-0441 or 622-1038.

SUNDAYS

Woburn ♦ Chiltern Tennis Assoc. Meets each Sun. for singles and doubles. Info (508) 670-0988.

New York, NY ♦ *Outlooks*, alt. Sundays, 7:30-8:30pm on WBAI 99.5 FM. By Gay/Les Independent Broadcasters. Info: Nicholas, (212) 348-3754.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY) Drop-In Center. St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin. (800) 42BAGLY.

Boston ♦ Work Issues Support Group. 2 to 4 pm G/L Comm. Ctr., 338 Newbury St.

Boston ♦ Boston Strikers Soccer Club. Weekly novice and club scrimmages. All levels. 3 pm. Info: Erik 423-0929 or Jeff 876-7612.

Cambridge ♦ Les. Sports. Magazine Field, Memorial Dr. Spons. by DOB. Softball/volleyball 6pm 'til dark. \$1. All abilities. Thru Sept. Info: Jean, 277-8150.

Boston ♦ Dignity Mass. Liturgy followed by a social hour. St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. 5:30 p.m. 536-6518.

Boston ♦ Western Orthodox Church Mass. Arlington St. Church, 351 Boylston St. 227-5794.

Provincetown ♦ Christian Healing Service. 5:30 pm. 96 Bradford St. (P'Town AIDS Support Grp.) Pot luck dinner to follow. (508) 487-3866.

Boston ♦ Metropolitan Community Church Worship/Fellowship. 131 Cambridge St. (near Gov't Ctr.). 7 pm. Info: Rev. Tanis 437-0420.

Boston ♦ Narcotics Anonymous, L/GM. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 8 pm. 247-2927.

Boston ♦ The Gay Dating Show, WUNR 1600AM. 10:30pm-2:30 am.

Boston ♦ Different Strokes Swim Team. Coached work-outs for swimmers of all abilities. 10:15. Info: 767-0449 or 282-3110.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Group for Sobriety, 2-3:30pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Northampton ♦ 1992 Les/Gay/Bi Pride March Steering Comm., 2-5pm, Family Planning Council's 3rd fl. conf. rm. Public welcome. Accessible. Info/donations: PO Box 280, Hadley, MA 01035.

MONDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Battered Women's Support Group, 7:30-9pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Women's NA 12-Step, 7:30-9pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Manchester, NH ♦ ACT UP/NH. Meets Mondays. Info/locations: (603) 746-3923.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Lesbians' Job Search Support Group, 1-2:30pm at Cronos' Harvest, 761 Centre St. Info: Sally, 524-0725.

Boston ♦ New Support Group for Recovering Women with HIV/AIDS. Sponsored by Women, Inc. Call Magda or Christine for a screening interview 442-6166.

Boston ♦ Positive Directions. Peer-led support group for HIV+ people. Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon. 12:25 p.m. 262-3456.

Boston ♦ Monday Night Dinners for PWA's and Friends: about 100 people meeting every Monday at AAC for dinner. No reservations required. 6pm AAC, 131 Clarendon St. 437-6200.

Dorchester ♦ Alcoholics Anonymous. First Parish Church, Mtg. Hs. Hill. Beginners 6:30, hardhats 8 pm.

Boston TV ♦ PrideTime—Boston G/L TV, with Bill Barnert & Cynthia Pape. 7 pm Cambridge Cable Channel 19. Also Sat., Boston Neighborhood Network, 7:30 pm Channels A3&A8; and Somerville Cable Access Channel 3, Thursdays, 9 pm.

Boston ♦ Queer Nation meets 1st and 3rd Mon. at new location: Local 26, 58 Berkeley, 3rd Floor. 7:00 pm.

Worcester ♦ AIDS Project Worcester. A support group for family, friends, concerned others dealing with HIV. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 pm. (508)755-3773.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap Group. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 8-10 pm. 354-8807.

Cable TV ♦ "Between Takes." Often a g/l slant on events. Boston A3 Mondays 9:30 pm. Cambridge CCTV Thurs 8:30 pm. Rhode Island Interconnect A Fri. 8:30 pm. Other areas: check listings.

Cambridge ♦ Partners/Lovers or Former Partners/Lovers of Incest Survivors. 1st and 3rd Mondays each month, 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street. Free. Info 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap (topics vary) 7:30-9pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info 354-8807 (tty/voice)

TUESDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Eating Awareness & Body Image Group, 7-9pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Healing After Abortion, 7-8:30pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ "The Woman Poet." Local women poets read their work in a social setting every Tues. 7:30pm. Donation requested. G/L Center, 338 Newbury St. Info 247-2927, 247-0579.

Cambridge ♦ Afternoon bicycling with Outriders (Chiltern Mountain Club cyclists). Departs Harvard Sq. Info: Bob, 266-3812.

Somerville ♦ Mtg. w/Mayor's Liaison to les/gay/bi community 2nd Tues. each month at 7pm, 167 Holland St. Info: Christopher at 625-6600 x2400.

Boston ♦ Tefilat Refuat Hanefesh. "Service of the Healing of the Soul," for Jewish Patients, their families and healthcare providers. First Tues. of month. 6pm. For more info 566-3960.

Boston ♦ Gay Fathers of Greater Boston. Meetings held 1st and 3rd Tues. of month. Lindemann Center, 25 Staniford St. \$2 donation. 8-10pm. Info 742-7897.

Boston ♦ Boston Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays. 2nd Tues. of month. Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave. Info 424-6989.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Batucada Belles rehearsal. Open to women of color. Multicultural Arts Center, Centre St. 7-9pm. Info 864-5067.

Providence, RI ♦ ACT UP/Rhode Island. Call for meeting place (401) 461-4191.

Gloucester ♦ Healing Circle / Positively Clean and Sober. Healing circle 6:30-8pm, open to anyone facing chronic or life-threatening illness. Pos. C&S 8 -9m, for people living with HIV and dealing with subst. abuse issues. N. Shore AIDS Project, 19 Pleasant St. (508) 283-0101.

Boston ♦ ACT UP/Boston. The Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. 7pm 49-ACTUP.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-8:30pm. 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Eating Awareness and Body Image Group. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-9pm. 354-8807.

Medford Radio ♦ Dyke on the Mike with the Nolsy Nelly Show — queer radio. WMFO 91.5FM.10am-12pm. Tufts U. radio. Info 381-3800.

Medford ♦ "We the People"—with feminist Sheila Parks. WMFO 91.5FM. 7-9am Tufts U. radio.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ G/B Men and Their Significant Others. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 pm. (508) 755-3773.

Boston ♦ L/G Freedom Trail Band Rehearsals. No audition necessary. Mass College of Art, Longwood and Brookline Ave. 7:15 pm. Info: 266-0628.

Boston ♦ The Buddy Program orientation. Sponsored by AAC. 4th Tues. of month. AAC offices, 131 Clarendon St. 7:30pm. For more info 437-6200 x450.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap (topics vary) 7:30-9:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap (topics vary) 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Boston ♦ Womyn-Identified Writing Group: Poetry/short stories. Bring copies for critiquing. 7:30pm, The Center, 338 Newbury St. \$1 donation. Accessible. Info 247-2927.

Amherst ♦ P-FLAG, Pioneer Valley Monthly meetings held 2nd Tues. of month. Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall. 6:30 pm. For info (413) 532-4883.

Boston ♦ Beantown Women's Rugby Club practice Tues/Thurs 6:30-9pm. All levels. For more info: Teresa at 787-3939/Laurie at 623-2341 (lv

msg).

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Out and About volleyball league plays 6-8pm thru Aug. 18. \$5 fee + possible court fees. Pre-register: (603) 659-2139.

Framingham ♦ Framingham Regional Alliance of Gay/Lesb. Youth meets 2st & 3rd Tues. each month, 6-7:30pm at The Civic League Bldg., 214 Concord St. For 22 & under. Info: FRAGLY, PO Box 426, Framingham 01701.

WEDNESDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Alanon, 6:30-8pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Accessible. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Battered Women's Support, June 3, 10, 24. 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Job search support group. Cambridge Women's Center. 6:30-8:30 pm. Info: 354-8807.

Amherst ♦ ACT-UP of Western Mass. meets 7:30pm at Bangs Comm. Ctr., 70 Boltwood Walk. Info: (413) 584-4213

Brockton ♦ Gay Men's Support Group, 7-8:30pm. Info/directions: Ron, (508) 580-8710.

Northampton ♦ Teen Support Group (19 & under). Meets afternoons. Facilitated by Pioneer Valley Gay/Les/Bi Youth Project. Mentors also available. Info: (413) 584-4213.

Boston ♦ Sales Networks Program for G/L Business Owners and Supporters of the Community. 7:30- 9:30 am. The Center, 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. Registration required: Marc Spencer 262-2400.

Hyde Park ♦ Women's Pick-Up Hockey. MDC Hyde Park Rink (near Dedham). 8-9 am. Info: Janice 326-1600 x350.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY). Open to youth age 22 and under. 35 Bowdoin St. New persons' meeting 6 pm.; women and men meet separately 6:45-7:30pm; general meeting 7:30pm. (800) 42-BAGLY.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Al-Anon. Wheelchair accessible. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 6:30-8 pm 354-8807.

Springfield ♦ Names Project Meeting. New chapter with weekly quilting meetings. All welcome. Frontier. 19 Pearl St 7-10 pm. (413)788-7459

Worcester ♦ Supporters of Worcester Area G/L Youth (SWAGLY). Social support grp. for youths 22 and under. 7-9pm. United Congregational Church, 6 Institute Road. (508) 755-0005.

Boston ♦ "Say it Sister"—feminist, gay-positive radio. WMBR 88.1 FM. 7pm.

Boston ♦ Bisexual Adult Children of Alcoholics. Mass. General Hospital. 7:30pm. Info: Marge 259-1559.

Bridgewater ♦ S. Shore G/L Alliance. 7:30-9pm. Bridgewater Ctr. Primarily a social group of age 25+, but all welcome. Info: Glen 293-5183 or Dave 294-0367.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ who are in Substance Abuse Recovery. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7:30-9pm. (508) 755-3773.

Amherst ♦ Queer Nation meets 6-7pm at Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk. Info: P.O. Box 202, Hadley, MA 01035 or (413) 584-4213.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Alanon 6:30-8pm at Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Accessible. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Ovary Action, a Women's Group of Queer Nation, invites new members. 2nd Wed./of month at The Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. (April 8/22: 8-9:45 pm.) Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

THURSDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Incest Survivors' Open Discussion 7:30-9:30pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Worcester ♦ "Face the Music." A radio show by and for lesbians. WCUW 91.3 FM. 8-9pm. Request line, (508) 753-2284.

Northampton ♦ ACT-UP of Western Mass. meets 2nd & 4th Thurs., 16 Center St., Rm. 311 at 7:30pm. Info: (413) 584-4213.

Boston ♦ Queer street defense training, 7-9pm at The Center, 338 Newbury St. Spons. by Pynk Panthers of Greater Boston. Also meets 3pm Sundays at Boston Common; general mtg. 4:30pm. Info: 499-9558

Somerville ♦ Weekly family-style dinner for PWAs, HIV+ and friends. 6:15pm, College Ave. United Methodist Church, 14 Chapel St. (corner College Ave.) Volunteers, food/cash donations welcome. Info: 666-4130.

Boston ♦ The Boston Monthly HIV Medical Update. 2nd Thurs. of each month at 7:30pm. John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place (near Copley Green and Back Bay/South End Orange T stations). Info: 262-3456.

Boston ♦ Beantown Women's Rugby practice (see Tues. listing)

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Out and About, lesb. social grp., meets 7pm. Location/info: Keryn, (603) 659-2139.

Marshfield ♦ HIV+ G/B men's support group. North River Counseling Ctr., 7-9:30pm. Info: 834-7433.

Boston ♦ Boston Area Rape Crisis Center drop-in group for women who have been raped. 492-RAPE.

Boston ♦ Names Project Quilting Bee — for the AIDS Memorial Quilt. Sewing supplies and support provided. Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon St. 7th flr. 7-9pm. Info 451-9003.

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Out and About. A lesbian social and support group. Info: Keryn (603) 749-5852.

Provincetown ♦ Positive PWA Coalition Weekly Rap Session. 7:30. 155 Bradford St. Peer led. Info: (508) 487-3998.

Boston ♦ The Group. Discussion and social hour. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 734-2076.

Boston ♦ Womyn-Identified Writing Group: Fiction, Non-Fiction. Bring copies for critiquing. 7:30pm, The Center, 338 Newbury St. \$1 donation. Accessible. Info 247-2927.

Boston ♦ HIV holistic therapies support group, 7-9pm at Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon, 7th fl. Free. Info: 236-1012.

Boston ♦ L/G Ice Hockey Practices and Intersquad Scrimmages. All levels. 9pm. Grtr Bos. rink. Info: John 350-6063, Al 522-1408.

Cambridge ♦ GAMIT Study Break. (GAMIT = Gays at MIT.) GAMIT lounge, 142 Memorial Dr.

Boston ♦ Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights general meeting. 3rd Thurs. of every month. 6:30-8 pm. The Center, Room 206, 338 Newbury St. Info 266-2956.

Boston TV ♦ PrideTime—Boston G/L TV, with Bill Barnert & Cynthia Pape. 9 pm Somerville Cable Access Channel 3. Also, 7 pm Mon., Cambridge Cable Channel 19; and Sat., Boston Neighborhood Network, 7:30pm Channels A3&A8.

Boston ♦ Gay, Lesb. & Bi Architects' Network meets 3rd Thurs. each month, 6:00pm. Architects' Bldg, 52 Broad St. RSVP appreciated: Camille, 629-2351.

Cambridge ♦ DOB coffee night. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., 7-9:30pm. Info: 661-3633.

Boston ♦ Lesbian and Gay Caucus of the National Writer's Union.The Center. 6-8pm. 338 Newbury St. Info 442-4693, 344-8096.

FRIDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Incest Survivors' Anonymous, 6:30-8pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Accessible. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Watertown ♦ GLOW: G/L of Watertown. 395-4664.

Provincetown ♦ Safe Sex Brigade and Anti-L/G/B Violence Campaign. Volunteers meet on steps of P'Town Post Office Friday and Sunday nights at 11:30pm. through Labor Day. Info: ACT UP (508) 487-2063.

Danbury, CT ♦ Danbury Area Gay Men's Support Group. 312 Main St. 7:30-9pm. Info (203) 744-0104.

Boston ♦ Friday Night at the Movies. The Center. 7pm. \$2 sugg. donation. 338 Newbury St. (location will change after June 13). Info: 247-2927.

ONGOING

Boston ♦ NOW rally at Fed. Courthouse, Post Office Sq., 5:30pm, the day the Supreme Ct. rules on Casey, most recent challenge to Roe v. Wade. Decision will be announced 10am any weekday before July 4. Info: 876-2420.

Boston ♦ Join Mass Choice for rally at Park St. T the day after Supreme Court's Casey ruling. 5:30pm if weekday, noon if weekend. Info: 556-8800.

Boston/Brookline ♦ Join NOW at abortion clinics weekday mornings in June at 7-9:30pm, Sat. by 6:45am. Clinics: 1842, 1297, or 1031 Beacon St. (Brookline), or 177 Tremont St. (Boston).

Massachusetts ♦ Lesbian Garden Surplus Giveaway spons. by Lesbians for Lesbians. During harvest season, drop off produce at Greenfield, Northampton-Amherst, or Boston site to benefit unemployed/low-/fixed-income lesbians. Info (413) 773-0888.

Lesbian & all-female plays/one-acts sought for 1st Annual Lesb. Playwriting Competition. Winner receives \$200 = production. Script/resume by Nov. 1: Tiana Lee, Tribad Prod., PO Box 1745, Guerneville, CA 95446.

New England ♦ East Coast Female-to-Male (Transgender) Group rotates monthly meetings in Boston, Western MA and Hartford, CT For days/locations: Bet (413) 584-7616, Lonnie (617) 926-7691, Michael (617) 522-5605.

Wellesley ♦ For info on events spons. by Lesbian Alumnae of Wellesley, write LAW, PO Box 3183, Manchester, NH 03105, (508) 651-1066.

Boston ♦ *Movie Queens*, comedy hit covering '30s Hollywood to '80s Broadway. Triangle Theater, 58 Berkeley St., Wed.-Sat. 8 pm., June 3-27. All seats reserved \$15. Info/tix info: 426-3550.

Milwaukee, WI ♦ MGALA, newly-formed gay/les alumni ass'n of Marquette, welcomes new members. All correspondence confidential: MGALA, PO Box 92722, Milwaukee, WI 53202, (414) 256-1347.

Waltham ♦ Benefit raffle tix on sale now. \$50 each. Cash prizes; only 150 tickets will be sold! Drawing held June 24. Check or MO w/SASE to: Support Comm. for Battered Women, PO Box 24, Waltham, MA 02254. Info: 891-0724.

Calendar Guidelines

Calendar listings must be received by the Monday before the week of the event. Photos encouraged! (GCN's FAX 617-426-2723) Please specify if event is or is not wheelchair accessible and/or sign language interpreted.

Calendar listings *will not* under any circumstances be taken over the phone.

Please use our format for listings, including time, date, place, and a contact person. All listings must be typed. Please note that listings are printed only as space allows; we regret that we cannot print every submission.

8TH ANNUAL BOSTON GAY AND LESBIAN FILM/VIDEO FESTIVAL

OPENING NIGHT GALA • THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1992



SWOON and RESONANCE

6pm Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Swoon is the story of Nathan Leopold, Jr. and Richard Loeb, two Jewish intellectuals made famous for the 1924 kidnapping and murder of a boy named Bobby Franks. These brilliant, precocious eighteen-year-old boys wove a tangled relationship built around their pleasure in criminal activities which became linked, in the mind of the public, to their homosexuality. Director Tom Kalin uses an experimental narrative format to explore the social, judicial and psychological forces which acted upon these two lives, previously the subject of Hitchcock's *Rope* and Fleischer's *Compulsion*.

Starting with gay bashing, *Resonance* lyrically explores the phenomena of domination and violence within relationships, while unravelling the social inscriptions of power and meaning on the body.

ORANGES ARE NOT THE ONLY FRUIT

8:15pm Museum of Fine Arts

This acclaimed made-for-BBC film documents the coming of age of a spirited girl in working class England. Adapted from the autobiographical first novel by Jeanette Winterson, Jess is forced to make a choice when a budding relationship with her girlfriend is exposed to her fundamentalist family.

OPENING NIGHT PARTY

A benefit for Gay Community News

9:15-12 midnight Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston

Join curator George Mansour and film celebrities in celebrating the opening of Boston's 8th Annual Gay and Lesbian Film/Video Festival in the main gallery. The exhibition *Annie Leibovitz: Photographs 1970-1990* will be on view.

\$12 in advance/\$15 at the door (Joint admission for either movie & Opening Night Party)

Tickets on sale at Glad Day Bookshop, New Words Bookstore and Gay Community News. To charge tickets (Mastercard/Visa), call 267-9300 x306.



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